DR. ROWLEY'S
RATIONAL PRACTICE OF
PHYSIC,
IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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THE RATIONAL PRACTICE OF PHYSIC

OF

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ST. MARY-LE-BONE INFIRMARY, &c. &c.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

CONTAINING

TREATISES

ON

FEMALE, NERVOUS, HYSTERICAL, HYPOCHONDRIACAL, AND CANCEROUS DISEASES,

LETTERS ON MEDICAL VANITY, THE ABUSE OF HEMLOCK, &c. &c.

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PREFACE.

THE ſubſequent volumes contain new editions, with conſiderable improvements, of the principal works, which the Author hath publiſhed or written during theſe laſt thirty years; except the *Schola Medicinæ Univerſalis Nova*, a work in Latin, on all the branches of medicine, the firſt volume of which is ready for publication, containing the anatomy and phyſiology and ſpecial pathology of the human body, embelliſhed with near 60 copper-plate engravings.

The repeated demand for the Treatiſe on Female and Nervous Diſeaſes, and other writings, which have been a conſiderable time out of print, has been the principal inducement to preſent the public with theſe volumes, in which will be found ſome additional performances, that have never before appeared.

In volume the firſt are treatiſes on female, ner-

vous, hyſterical, bilious, cancerous diſeaſes, and letters formerly publiſhed, on the dangerous tendency of medical vanity, the abuſe of *hemlock*, and the cure of a cancerous womb, &c.

In volume the ſecond, are treatiſes on Madneſs, Suicide, and a ſhort performance on the definitions of mental diſeaſes, proving, that the late affection of His Majeſty was not inſanity, as ſuppoſed by many, but ſtrictly a feveriſh ſymptomatic deſirium.* It may be obſerved, that the concluding ſentence in that book has been verified, where it is declared, "*that the diſorder was not madneſs, and the cure would be permanent.*" It is hoped, that the aſſertion of this important truth, ſo intereſting to the Royal family and nation, will not be conſidered unneceſſary by thoſe, who reflect on the many ſerious circumſtances attending that alarming event.

In this ſecond volume, there are likewiſe treatiſes on convulſions and ſpaſms,† in which the

* In the Treatiſe on Madneſs are ſome intereſting facts concerning the perverſion of the ſoul's influence, when the brain is, in different modes, diſeaſed.

† In this volume a very important new diſcovery, amongſt many, is communicated, by which the *tetanus* and *locked jaw* have been effectually cured. Eight cures are given, ſix of which happened at the *St. Mary-le-Bone Infirmary*.

the deceptions of thoſe artful pretenders, the *magnetizers*, are produced in a point of view, not very honorable either to the artiſts, or their credulous followers; treatiſes on lethargy, apoplexy, and palſy, on the ſpecies of gout, their cauſes and rational treatment, with the excellent effects of the muriatic acid in the paroxyſms of that painful diſorder. Obſervations on dogs *ſuppoſed* mad, follow, which laſt tract, has never until now been publiſhed. In this treatiſe, it is fully proved, that no dog was ever *mad*: the hiſtories on this ſubject have been often fallacious, the treatment hath been irrational, and new methods are propoſed for the prevention and cure of the diſeaſe, that has been ſo alarming in all ages.

In volume the third, is a treatiſe on 118 diſeaſes of the eyes and eyelids, with deſcriptions of all the operations performed on the organ of viſion, and ſix engraved plates, ſhewing the anatomy of the eye, and the manner in which viſion is performed. In this work will be found many new and conſiderable improvements in reſtoring loſt ſight, &c. with an impartial criticiſm on all preceding authors.

To this treatiſe is ſubjoined a new work on medical electricity, containing a general review, and the eſſence of all the authors who have written on that ſubject, and ſome obſervations on the probability of electriſation, being uſeful in pulmonic complaints, and nervous dejection, when an eaſt or north-eaſt wind blows. The lowneſs of ſpirits, ſo obſervable at thoſe times, ſeems to ariſe from the atmoſpheric air being deprived of the vivifying electric fluid, &c. In this part are ſome curious and intereſting queſtions on electricity.

The fourth volume commences with a treatiſe on the cure of *ulcerated* legs, *without reſt*, &c. which has undergone many editions and improvements, ſince its firſt publication in 1769. In this work it is proved, that all the former doctrines on the ſubject, delivered by Sharp and others, are erroneous; that ulcers may injure the human body by the re-abſorption of the matter excreted, and that the permanent cure ſhould be attempted, by changing the morbid habit, and removing the cauſes of the ulcer from the conſtitution; many thouſands of cures have confirmed the excellent utility of theſe doctrines.

The

The next in ſucceſſion is a treatiſe on the malignant ulcerated ſore throat, in which an extraordinary cure of a very deſperate caſe is exhibited, to induce practitioners never to deſpair of effecting cures in putrid diſeaſes, while proper medicine can be applied.

The writings of Fothergill, Huxham, Sir J. Pringle, Sir W. Fordyce, Wall, Cameron, Johnſtone, Home, Dr. G. Fordyce, Gregory, and Cullen, are candidly examined, all the errors and merits of theſe excellent improvers are produced, and their aggregate practices, from the commixture of ancient and modern treatment, are ſhewn to amount to *fourteen defective* or dangerous, though hitherto approved methods.

Then follows a mode of curing the putrid ulcerated ſore throat, which rarely fails of ſucceſs, with an examination of the ſuppoſed powers of what has been called *nature*, in the cure of diſeaſes, and the abſurdity and ignorance of placing any dependance on ſuch a deluſive preceptreſs as the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, which is proved to be the medical cant and hypocriſy of former times, tranſmitted

mitted to us, and received through a vicious credulity, and want of due reflection.*

This work was originally publiſhed in 1788, but, from its rapid ſale, was ſoon out of print.

A new performance, next appears, called the *Cauſes of the great Number of Deaths*, in the Scarlet Fever of Children, and ulcerated Sore Throats, explained, with an account of the ſucceſsful management of the *putrid malignant gaol*, or *hoſpital fever*, with *purple ſpots*, &c. as practiſed at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

It is proved, that formerly 70 or 80 perſons died in theſe diſeaſes out of every 100; but by the method adopted by the Author, not five in a 100, for many years, have died of putrid diſeaſes. The cauſes of death are attributed to the obſtinate perſeverance in the practice of *bleeding*, giving *cooling*, or *ſaline draughts*, and *ſweating remedies*, &c. &c. inſtead of uſing the moſt powerful *anti-ſeptics*, as the vitriolic acid, bark, &c. in the firſt moments of putrid-tending infection, or fever.

The dangerous doctrines are ſingly and collectively viewed of *Sydenham*, *Boerhaave*, *Hoffman*, *Huxham*, *Pringle*, *Lieutaud*, *Mead*, *Monro*, *Storck*, *De*

* The word *nature*, like the *occult qualitiy* of Ariſtotle, has been a ſcreen for ignorance and deception in all ages.

De Hean, *Home*, *Gregory*, and *Cullen*, and it is proved, that while ſome of the precepts of theſe eminent writers, however excellent in other reſpects, influence the practice of medicine in putrid complaints, that thouſands of patients muſt be annually ſlaughtered, whoſe lives might be ſaved by purſuing the new doctrines communicated. The ſevere truths, and the warm manner in which they are agitated, were abſolutely neceſſary to overturn, if poſſible, notions that have proved deſtructive to ſociety in all ages and countries: for, though improvements have been made by many ingenious phyſicians in the treatment of acute infectious diſeaſes, yet there ſtill remained ſome inconſiſtency and dangerous prejudices, which it has been the main object of this preſent production to effectually eradicate.

Medical advice to the army and navy ſerving in European or hot climates follows, which was preſented to His Majeſty in 1776, containing the diſorders common to ſailors and ſoldiers, &c. with many preſcriptions in Engliſh, to render the book more generally beneficial.

The fourth volume concludes with a new treatiſe on diet, in which digeſtion, chylification, nutrition, &c.

&c. are explained, the cauſes of defects in the nouriſhment of the human body, and a view of all the meats, drinks, &c. that are eſteemed in moſt parts of the world, their culinary, or other preparations, uſe, abuſe, &c. but introductions being annexed to moſt of the treatiſes, with a *conſpectus* or table of contents, a long explanatory exordium is unneceſſary in this prefatory diſcourſe.

The intentions of the whole work are to introduce new principles of theory and practice, founded on many hundreds of *anatomical demonſtrations;* on the lateſt philoſophical improvements; and on many abſtruſe, yet clear inductive reaſonings. From theſe ſources, more effectual methods of removing many diſeaſes, than hitherto have been promulgated, are ardently inculcated.

In moſt of the diſorders, anatomical diſſections are produced to elucidate the true cauſes of all the impediments of the functions, experienced in a ſtate of diſeaſe, and to ſhew the rationality of the modes of cure propoſed. No random treatment is adopted; but theory and practice are united from facts; incongruous doctrines are expoſed and avoided, and the moſt efficaciousre medies are introduced,

and

and confirmed by the author's ſucceſsful experience. Where ſatisfactory reaſonings can be diſcovered to penetrate into the *arcana* of natural or accidental phenomena, they are exhibited; all empirical practices are condemned, though at preſent too much in faſhion by men eſteemed eminent*. No fixed ſyſtematic narrow methods of treatment, taught in the ſchools by perſons of confined genius and limited experience, are propoſed; but the practice is to continually vary, according to *conſtitutions*, *diet*, *age*, *ſexes*, *climate*, &c. &c. for medicine, to be rational and ſucceſsful, muſt accommodate itſelf to a variety of incidents and circumſtances undiſcernible to the inexperienced; but well comprehended by thoſe ſkilful phyſicians, who are not warped by temporary deluſions, nor intereſted in the promotion of the prevailing prejudices of the moment.

The common *routine* of medical practice is eaſily acquired by induſtry and memory, with little learning and genius; but to perceive what is defective, and apply what is excellent in the art, requires more

* The preſent rage in giving large doſes of *opium* and *hemlock*, in almoſt every diſorder, is the height of *quackery*; I have collected, from obſervation, ſuch facts of the deleterious conſequences of theſe irrational practices, as would ſtrike the mind with *horror!*

more meditation, than ſome men are inclined to give, to develope the knotty club of *Æſculapius*. To judge impartially of practical facts, by penetrating into the cauſes and effects of various phenomena, requires more acuteneſs and experience than falls to the lot of every individual practitioner:—*nam non ex quovis ligno Mercurius fit.* A man ſhould be born for phyſic, and warmly attached to its ſtudy and active humane duties, or he will rarely comprehend ſo extenſive an art.

It is highly criminal to withhold from the public any uſeful diſcovery; but as all phyſicians have not equal inclination, opportunities, or the means to purſue deep reſearches; thoſe, who have theſe advantages, ſhould publiſh, from time to time, their obſervations and experiments, and thus diffuſe new knowledge. It is by the united labors of ſuch induſtrious aud ſedulous men, that all the arts have been conſtantly improving, and it is by the enterpriſing efforts of ſuch men, under proper reſtrictions, that new diſcoveries will gradually pierce, and deſpel the dark clouds of all former errors and prejudices.

The doctrines advanced in the *rational practice of phyſic*, are the collective reſult of much theoretical

tical and indefatigable reflection, arising from immense practical experience, and from seizing all opportunities that offered to examine the ravages of diseases *post mortem*.

The author is proud of declaring, that he has practised, at different periods, most of the branches of medicine; he is of opinion that every physician should comprehend, though he may not practise the whole art; for all the branches are so mutually connected, that partial knowledge must be always defective *. It is rational to conclude, that every physician, who is versed in the various departments of the art, will perceive all diseases clearer, and be more able to concentrate his ideas on all subjects that require minute investigations and deep reasonings, and he will form more profound, yet perspicuous propositions for the purposes of practice, than those who are satisfied with the art as they found it; or who rest

* The practice of surgery will often shew the habit of patients by the different appearances of sores, and by the difficulty or facility with which wounds or ulcers heal; medicine, judiciously applied, changes the bad habit of the body, promotes the cure of wounds, ulcers, &c. I have attributed much of my success to having made accurate observations of this nature, when I formerly practised surgery, midwifery, &c. and applying the same to the practice of medicine.

reſt contented with a moderate knowledge of a ſingle branch of phyſic, which can only advance its votaries to profeſſional mediocrity. It is therefore earneſtly recommended, to all medical ſtudents, to avoid narrow prepoſſeſſions, and to purſue every mode of ſtudy that can add to their knowledge, and never to be ſatisfied with what books teach, or profeſſors ſay; but to render themſelves able to determine, whether what may be advanced, by either, be truth; or, if conjectural, to comprehend well the bounds of probability*. Thus, and thus only, when combined with accurate obſervations in practice, will fallacies or defects be diſcovered, and amidſt a variety of contending parties and practices in medicine, will be perceived by an unprejudiced comparative view, what is moſt reaſonable and conducive to the welfare of ſociety in relieving diſeaſes. No phyſician, then, ſhould be ſatisfied with preſent knowledge, however extenſive, or however patroniſed by the public voice or approbation; but he ſhould ambitiouſly purſue, through life, every poſſible mode of enquiry, by which

* I purpoſe, in the *Schola Medicinæ*, to give plans of ſtudying medicine, quite different to thoſe in vogue, by which ſtudents may always unite theory and experience, and by that means facilitate the knowledge neceſſary for an efficacious practice.

which he may obtain improvement, ſerve mankind, and illuminate the art: that art, which, in many reſpects, is yet defective, and, therefore, ſtill capable of receiving a higher degree of excellence.* Had our anceſtors thought otherwiſe, in what a miſerable ſtate would the healing art have preſented itſelf to us; and did we think with ſome of our cotemporaries, who view improvements with a malignant eye, and who are induſtrious only in depreciating merit in others, how many thouſands muſt annually periſh in putrid-tending, malignant, and other diſeaſes, who, it is affirmed, may remain, by judicious medical treatment, uſeful members of ſociety. A more vicious ſentiment cannot pervade the human breaſt, than for phyſicians to perverſely exert their faculties in oppoſing ſcientific and uſeful innovations, nor can there be greater proofs of candor, humanity, and wiſdom, than the relinquiſhment of paſt errors, to protect and cheriſh new diſcoveries for the alleviation of human miſery; the former, through falſe pride, deprive the world of the moſt

* Travelling into different climates and countries, and obſerving the different appearances of diſeaſes, and treatment, are excellent modes for removing all narrow notions, and local prejudices.

moſt beneficial intentions, and ſacrifice public utility to private envy or malevolence; the latter, by embracing new truths, from whatever quarter they originate, merit the warmeſt eſtimation; for they endeavour to render medicine, what it ought to be, the preſerver or reſtorer of health, the moſt valuable of all bleſſings. Any attempts, therefore, to preſerve medicine in a ſtate of torpid ſtagnation, deſerves the ſevereſt reprehenſion, and all well-conceived and well-intentioned efforts to add freſh vigor to the preſent knowledge, are worthy of attention, though they may not always anſwer the warm expectations of the inventor.*

In moſt parts of theſe works, many new ſentiments, and original ideas, are delivered with openneſs and freedom: reaſonings from the lateſt diſcoveries in phyſiology, are introduced to illuſtrate the doctrines on which the practice of medicine is founded. What is offered, is reſpectfully ſubmitted to the conſideration of the learned, experienced,

* I have known men, who are *mere anatomiſts*, decry the theory and practice of phyſic, and declare it uſeleſs: ſuch men ſhould firſt ſtudy and comprehend the utility of the art, before they pronounce ſo ignorantly and raſhly on what they certainly do not underſtand.

perienced, and candid in the profeſſion: their approbation may confirm what appears well founded, their judicious objections to whatever may be thought defective, or redundant, will be attended to, and reſpectfully acknowledged; but as moſt of the writings have been publiſhed already, in detached pieces, and received, both by the public and many learned of the profeſſion, with an approbation much beyond the author's expectations, he has availed himſelf of ſome hints which have been communicated, and exerted his utmoſt endeavours to render theſe works more complete. What was moſt exceptionable has been expunged; numerous caſes and facts of cures formerly introduced, have been excluded, but the eſſential doctrines, on which thoſe ſucceſsful practical truths have been eſtabliſhed, have been preſerved, and concentrated in the form of diſtinct treatiſes, and all the obſervations collected from experience are added. Many of the treatiſes have paſſed through ſeveral editions, and have received repeatedly, a thorough reviſion. Could the Author's conſtant engagements in the buſy ſcenes of a very extenſive practice, have permitted more leiſure, for the production of the preſent edition of

the former and of the new works, they would have appeared more worthy of that public, which has liberally afforded ſuch a great latitude for making various obſervations annually, on many thouſands of patients; he has been obliged frequently to ſnatch thoſe moments for reviewing theſe volumes, which moſt others paſs in relaxation: therefore, ſome allowance will be made by thoſe converſant in literary purſuits for any typographical or other errors, which may appear. The practical duties of the art demand ſo much time and conſideration, ſo much activity and vigilance, to effectually encounter the different difficulties and varieties with which medicine daily abounds, that leiſure for any other purpoſes, can ſeldom be obtained by phyſicians in full practice.

As the modes of reaſoning adopted by the Author, in many parts of theſe works, may appear new, particularly to thoſe who are not accuſtomed to reaſon logically, it may be neceſſary to give a ſhort explanation of the manner in which the reaſonings are conducted.

Mathematical, geometrical, mechanical, and many chemical hypotheſes, formerly and lately in vogue for conſtructing the various and viſionary theories

theories in medicine, in a great meaſure, are excluded, and facts, originating from the evidence of the ſenſes, from ocular demonſtrations, are exhibited to explain the *cauſes* of diſeaſes, and to ſearch for adequate remedies to remove thoſe cauſes.

Firſt. The anatomical ſtructure and phyſiology of the parts or functions, are explained in different treatiſes, by connected facts and reaſonings, as far as were thought expedient.

Secondly. From the appearances after death, the impediments and morbid affections, that had happened in life, are attempted to be aſcertained by inductive reaſonings.

Thirdly. Propoſitions from theſe ſources of true intelligence, are formed, in many inſtances, both theoretical and practical.

Fourthly. From conſidering the origin and magnitude of diſeaſes, explained by the foregoing means, their ſtages, real and probable effects in the living human body, are all the prognoſtics diſcovered, and what benefits may be expected from the art of medicine in various diſeaſes; by which facts and reflections, rational ex-

pectations are encouraged, and raſh boaſtings and irrational promiſes diſcountenanced; medicine, thus conceived, and practiſed, ſtrictly adheres to reaſon and truth.

Fifthly. By concentrating all the foregoing facts, and conſidering, from long and paſt experience, the force, power, and probable conſequences of a diſeaſe, with its ſtages; whether it be chronic or acute; the age, ſex, ſtrength, and conſtitution of the individual affected, are aſcertained the powers and mode neceſſary for the removal of the *cauſes* of diſeaſe.

Sixthly. In the election of remedies, thoſe that are important are adopted and preſcribed, where they can be exhibited with ſafety and rationality to the patient, and *palliative* methods of treatment are never propoſed, but in caſes wherein *radical cures* cannot be with any hope of ſucceſs attempted.

Amongſt the great variety of preſcriptions for the *robuſt* and *florid*, *pale* and *debilitated*, *irritable* or more *torpid*, &c. there are few which the author's own experience has not proved ſafe and efficacious in the caſes, and under the circum-

ſtances they are recommended *. It has always been conſidered the duty of a phyſician, to act on clear principles and with energy, or not act, and to be always more ſolicitous to attack a diſeaſe by efficacious remedies, than to pleaſe the patient's taſte at the hazard of life, or the injury of the conſtitution. The ordering trifling ſaline and ſweetened draughts, when diſorders demand the moſt decided and powerful practice, is a diſgrace to the art; *ſed eſt modus in rebus.*

The mind of a phyſician ſhould be always directed, and ardently animated to attack the cauſes of diſeaſe, and be elevated ſuperior to the difficulty medicine has to encounter. Timidity, or raſhneſs, are equally dangerous in the treatment of many morbid affections: the former frequently loſes the faireſt opportunities of ſaving life; the latter is the companion of ignorance and empiriciſm.

Several expreſſions in this preface, and, perhaps in different parts of the work, may appear to be warm

* There is certainly a great difference in the conſtitutions of different patients, ſome abound with *ſerum*, others with a ſuperabundance of *red particles* in the blood, which form the *pallid* and *florid*; the fat ſuperabound with oil, the lean not. Will any confined ſyſtem be adequate to this diverſity?

warm and too animated; they are, however, the effuſions of a mind ſtrongly attached to the medical profeſſion, and determined to eradicate, if poſſible, ſome prejudices that have long prevailed. To thoſe who affirm that *the truth is not to be ſpoken at all times*, it might be anſwered, that in a political, but not in a medical view, ſuch diſingenuous reſerve, in ſome few inſtances, may be expedient. The ſubjects on which medicine treats, are the preſervation of health and the life of man, in which humanity cannot exhibit too much ſincerity. If the different objects the author has in view be but accompliſhed, of which the preſent are but very ſmall ſpecimens of his future intentions, many profeſſional errors will ſoon be aboliſhed, and the improvements of experienced phyſicians, inſtead of receiving unmerited oppoſition from intereſted cotemporaries or virulent competitors, will be ardently embraced; when facts, reaſoning, and repeated experience, ſhall have eſtabliſhed their curative utility.

Saville-Row, Nov. 18, 1793.

CONSPECTUS OF THE WORK.

GENERAL methods of preventing female diſeaſes, 1—By diet, exerciſe, and proper attention, 2—To prevent conſtipation, &c. 5—Treatment of the full and florid, pale, nervous, debilitated, &c. Opiates to be avoided. 1.

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Anatomical examinations after death.

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Cauſes.——Errors in diet, exerciſes, paſſions of the mind, treated ſeparately——Coſtiveneſs—Inactive life——Depraved blood—Rupture of uterine veſſels, how accounted for—Various—As likewiſe modes of cure—Preſcriptions, and times of applying mediçines, &c. 29—Abſtinence from drinks.

The conſequences.——Cachexy, dropſy, hectic fever, or conſumption, how prevented.

Cure adapted to the florid or pallid—Danger of ſudden ſtoppage, as coughs, ſpitting of blood, ſcirrhus, and cancer of the womb—Large flow neceſſary to ſome, hurtful to other women—Diet neceſſary, nutritious, but not heating or ſtimulating—Preſcriptions for different ranks and circumſtances—For the florid and pallid, &c.—Styptics, 32, &c.

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Such modes may radically cure nervous hyſteric caſes, but leſs will only prove a palliation of ſymptoms. If the powers of the conſtitution ſhould not co-operate with medicines, cures need not be expected. Scirrhoſities of the viſcera, glands, &c. need only be expected from a long-continued uſe of mineral alteratives; but not always eligible, —— —— 331

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Bile never in the stomach naturally, but forced there by *nausea* or *vomiting*. *Offices* of the *bile* in the duodenum, how perverted by vomits.

Bile never in the stomach but by an inversion of the actions of the duodenum and pylorus; should always be carried downwards, if possible, or prevented from accumulating, 350

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How the *bile* should always be promoted downwards, by which the violence of vomiting is avoided. Rough methods never necessary when curative intentions can be answered by mild. Vomits, by forcing a quantity of blood to the vessels of the *brain*, have proved fatal. Instance of a young man, who, by the force of vomiting, drove the stomach from its natural situation into the chest, which proved fatal; with appearances after death, on opening

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A *low pulſe* often a great reaſon for free bleeding. A *low pulſe*, from obſtruction in the heart or large veſſels, lungs, or compreſſion on the cerebellum.

Local bleedings of the utmoſt utility, and why to be preferred in the apoplexy, &c. *Arguments:* gradual depletion not equal to the force of ſudden attacks of the apoplexy, where the heart forces the blood violently and ſuddenly to the head. An *immediate* remedy to be preferred to a *ſlow* one in all caſes of exigency.

A rupture of the blood veſſels of the brain to be apprehended, which commonly kills the patient: its prevention by liberally emptying the veſſels, the only remedy: from the author's own knowledge has frequently preſerved life. No time to be loſt in ſlow deliberation; for in ſlow, dubitative conſultations, the patient's life is not unfrequently loſt.

The ſubject illuſtrated by attempting the ſalvation of a man likely to be drowned. Whether a remote or immediate method of preſerving life be moſt eligible. *Dangerous error* excludes bleeding in many caſes of apoplexy, while reaſoning and ſucceſsful experience determine its utility.

The

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Evacuations and abſtinence from liquids: *Incongruity* of the common practice explained, of *emptying* and *filling* at the ſame moment.

Repeated bleeding and the rigid *ſtarvation* ſchemes in hectical and conſumptive caſes not attended with ſucceſs, though almoſt univerſally adopted. Buffy blood no ſign of true inflammation, nor does it indicate a neceſſity of bleeding repeatedly, as may be obſerved in gouty and chronic rheumatiſm, where bleeding is injurious in moſt inſtances, and yet the blood is always *buffy*.

All attempts to *dilute* the blood, as it is called, in gouty, rheumatic, and certain pulmonic diſeaſes, &c., by the common means, are hypothetical and impracticable. Dropſies may be the conſequence; but not the change of blood to a ſalubrious ſtate.

Tea acts as a fomentation on the coats of the ſtomach, and injurious to the nervous, counteracting *tonics*. Dry nutritious diet ſhould accompany bracing remedies.

Pains in the poſterior part of the head ariſing from ſerum in the ventricles of the brain, the pupils of the eyes dilated. Acrimony cured by attacking the various cauſes.

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Intermittent inflammations of the eyes, tooth-ach, cured in a ſimilar mode.

Nervous patients ſeldom require theſe formidable methods.

Prejudices concerning agues conſidered. The *ague* or intermittent fever *no cure* for any diſorder.

Agues or intermittent not to be ſuffered to continue, but to be immediately cured.

Bark alone not a ſpecific for the ague or intermittent fever of this country.

Bark purging not always inefficacious. Opiates improper.

Theſe obſervations more calculated for the continent than in England. Advice to noblemen or gentlemen who travel, never to move without James's powder and bark.

Objections

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ter

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The mind and body become reciprocally the cauſe and effect. A mind agitated produces depraved chyle, depraved chyle depraved blood, depraved blood a degeneracy of all the fluids, acting as ſtimuli on the brain, &c.

Quickneſs of temper always injures the conſtitution, increaſes by indulgence. Medicine not to be cenſured where the mind is not reſtrainable by the patient.

Where nervous patients indulge petulance or anger, they take the moſt effectual means, not only to ſhorten, but likewiſe to render their lives miſerable.

Changing the acrimonious ſtate of the blood to a balſamic ſtate very uſeful in changing ill humor into mildneſs. *Envy* more owing to an ill ſtate of the blood than any other cauſe, &c.

Human character diſcovered by the phyſiognomy denied by thoſe who moſt wiſh, perhaps, to conceal the depravities of the heart. None ſo much deceived as thoſe who imagine they always deceive others.

Phyſicians have the greateſt opportunities of developing human character, and diſcovering many cauſes in the ſtate of blood, form of body, &c. *J. Baptiſta Porta* and *Lavater* great connoiſſeurs in human phyſiognomy, &c. Temperaments too much neglected by the moderns. A curious hiſtory of *Seleucus*, and

the

the penetration and prudence of *Eraſiſtratus*, the *phyſician*.

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END OF THE CONSPECTUS TO VOLUME I.

A

TREATISE

ON

FEMALE, NERVOUS DISEASES, MADNESS, SUICIDE,

&c. &c.

GENERAL METHOD OF PREVENTING FEMALE DISEASES, *&c.*

THE delicate ſtructure of the female body; the peculiar ſenſibility of the nervous ſyſtem; the abſence, preſence, diminution, increaſe, or obſtruction of the catamenia; the ſtate of the uterus, and the ſingularities of each individual conſtitution, all require the moſt ſerious attention of the phyſician, who would treat the diſorders of females with integrity and ſucceſs.

The due regulation of the catamenia is of the utmoſt importance: but it ſhould not be determined on from the quantity of the diſcharge, but what the conſtitution has been accuſtomed to; this varies more or leſs in every female.

Perſons of ſuperior rank, who uſe little exerciſe, and are of a relaxed habit, have often this evacuation in greater abundance than thoſe of an inferior ſtation; yet this may anſwer the moſt ſalutary purpoſes in both conditions.

The conſtitution, in general, regulates the catamenia without requiring any aſſiſtance from art: therefore phyſicians, and the female ſex, ſhould be very cautious how they counteract this uterine excretion by improper and ill-timed remedies; for miſchief has been the conſequence *.

An

* Hunc ſanguinem ex ipſius uteri vaſis deponi demonſtravit autopſia in fœminis, eo fluente extinctis; in vivis mulieribus, quibus uterus inverſus ſanguinem ex oſtio interno diſtillavit: in aliis, quibus cum menſes deficerent, uterus ſanguine congeſto plenus fuit, natura uteri vaſis pleniſſima, mollis ſpongioſa, comparata cum tenui, minima flocculenta, calloſa vagina.—Nihil tamen intercedit quin utero impedito ſanguis per vaginam deponatur, ut alius per ultimum inteſtinum & per remotiſſimas demum corporis partes deponitur.—*Hallerus.*

An increaſe or diminution of the menſtrual evacuation may happen from various cauſes; as changes of air, diet, and exerciſes; violent affections of the mind, as anger, grief, fear; retentions of natural and diurnal excretions, as the feces, urine, and perſpiration, without any injury to the conſtitution: theſe changes, or any little ſlight ſymptoms ariſing from them, ſhould not be conſidered or treated as diſeaſes.

In healthful conſtitutions, beſides the purpoſes of propagating the human ſpecies, the womb expels whatever is noxious or redundant; and prevents or cures, by this means, many female complaints *.

The diet of females ſhould be regulated according to the individual conſtitution: but, during the flowing of the catamenia, all *acids*, *flatulent*, *cold*, *milky*, *viſcid*, and *groſs diet* ſhould be avoided; as likewiſe *cold bathing*, *ſudden cold*, *vegetables*, and all bracing or *aſtringent* medicines, *purges*, or *vomits*.

If the catamenia ſhould be accompanied with much pain, ariſing from the reſiſtance

* Καλαμηνίων γινομένων πλειόνων νοῦσοι ξυμβαίνουσι.—*Hippoc.*

of the *os internum*, or from little coagulated maſſes formed in the uterus, which it endeavours to expel by repeated and painful contractions *, warm cloths may be repeatedly applied to the lower part of the abdomen, or a bladder filled with hot water, which will retain its heat a conſiderable time; and warm, comfortable drinks may be uſed in moderation; if theſe do not ſucceed, an emollient carminative clyſter may be preſcribed †.

Theſe pains are immediately removed by opiates; but the greateſt ſkill and circumſpection are required in their adminiſtration; for they ſometimes produce *delirium*, *convulſions*, *headachs*, *obſtruction*, and a train of other diſagreeable ſymptoms, not only in this, but in other feminine complaints; and their effects are commonly equal to the proportion of nervous ſenſibility the conſtitution poſſeſſes.

In

* Theſe pains are frequently miſtaken for colics, both by medical practitioners and females, and very improperly treated. The pains are ſituated under the pubis, between the bladder and rectum, &c.

† Of carraway, anniſeeds, chamomile flowers boiled, and a cup of ſweet oil. Myrrh and aloetics are uſeful.

In the intermediate time, from one monthly diſcharge to another, the accuſtomed way of life, and that which has been experienced to agree, ſhould be continued, if not productive of indiſpoſition, and this will be beſt determined by every perſon's natural feelings. Air, exerciſe, regular diet, and amuſements, are more conducive to health, than confinement, indolence, a minute attention to trifling changes, and a conſtant application to the art of medicine.

From natural conſtitution, and often from errors in living, ariſe a plethora or fullneſs in ſome women, and an extreme relaxation in others: both require a different treatment.

To remove fullneſs, joined with too much floridity, a more abſtemious diet may be purſued once or twice in the week, avoiding ſuppers, or large draughts of different liquids.

To invigorate the relaxed and pallid, light nutritious meats, with a glaſs of wine, avoiding all teas, lemonade, ſmall beer, or any weak drinks, as much as poſſible. By regulating exactly the quantity of liquids taken into the ſtomach, ſo as never to exceed the

ſolid

ſolid food: but, as each individual may require a particular treatment, to direct this is the province of medicine.

Coſtiveneſs is a common female complaint, and productive of many evils: in thoſe of a plethoric habit, and florid complexion, *common or calcined magneſia*, *ſal polychreſtum*, *ſena*, ſtewed prunes, manna; and to robuſt habits, even Rochelle ſalts may occaſionally be repeated, if a more free uſe of boiled vegetables ſhould not anſwer.

To the relaxed, thin, and pale, *aloetics* joined with *ſoap*, a few grains of *Rufus's pill*, or ſuch-like remedies, will be proper; but no preparation, perhaps, is better, than about from two to ſix grains of the *pilula ex colocynth. cum aloe*, twice or thrice in the week; it commonly removes pains in the ſtomach, and acts very gently, if well prepared.

A grain of the *pulv. gambog.*, or half a grain of calomel, as an excellent deobſtruent, may be added in ſome obſtinate caſes of conſtipation.

Such are the general means by which health may be preſerved, and many grievous diſeaſes prevented.

Of

Of the CHLOROSIS, *or* GREEN SICKNESS.

A partial or total obſtruction in the uterine veſſels of young females, under or about the age of puberty, attended with great paleneſs, or a ſallow green colour of the face and ſkin, and a diſinclination to move, is called the chloroſis, or green ſickneſs *.

To the above appearances the following ſymptoms may be added; paleneſs of lips; great laſſitude; coldneſs of the feet; loſs of appetite, or a deſire for abſurd things; nauſea and vomiting; diſturbed ſleep; a languid pulſe; yellow, turbid, or aqueous urine; a difficulty of breathing; ſwellings of the feet, and other parts; palpitation of the heart; pains of the head; faintings, and a great dejection of the mind.

The immediate cauſes of the chloroſis ſeem to be a depraved ſtate of the fluids, from a repeated

* Hipp. Iliſcis Avicennæ; febris alba & virginum obſtructiones Mercati; Cachexia Plateri, de diſcoloratione. Morbus virgineus & febris alba Rod. a Caſtro. Fœdi colores Ballonii. Febris amatoria Langii. Icteritia alba Etmulleri. The multiplication of names for one and the ſame thing may be numbered amongſt modern philoſophical abſurdities.

repeated accumulation of what ſhould have been diſcharged by the uterine veſſels; a diminiſhed ſenſibility of the nervous ſyſtem, and a loſs of vigour in the ſolids. Inſtead of a proper proportion of the red particles in the blood, ſerum or lymph predominate; the fine feelings are blunted; the ſoul and body appear in a ſtate of torpidity, and every little exertion of the muſcular powers produces fatigue.

The other cauſes are, a humid and cold air; a natural lax, ſpongeous and phlegmatic habit; a ſedentary life; affections of the mind; improper diet; a bad digeſtion; but above all, the admiſſion of a depraved and ill-prepared chyle through the lacteal veſſels *.

When the diſeaſe has been ſome time confirmed, the mind and body become the reciprocal cauſes of its increaſe and continuance; the languid ſtate of mind is daily more debilitated by the ſluggiſh circulation of cold unhealthy fluids; and this feeble circulation appears

* Vitium primæ coctionis, quæ fit in primis viis, non facile corrigitur in ſecunda, quæ in viſceribus ſanguificationi & depuratione inſervientibus peragitur, minus in tertia quæ actu nutritionis abſolvitur.

pears to deaden the nervous ſenſations, and deprive the ſoul and active nervous powers of thoſe exertions which might expel the formidable enemy. The effects, after death, may ſeldom be ſeen; but a few examinations ſhew ſufficiently the conſequences of the diſeaſe, when confirmed *.

The cure conſiſts in correcting the vitiated fluids; and removing glandular, or other obſtructions.

Removing the torpidity of the nervous ſyſtem; and

Invigorating the ſolids.

1. Theſe

* *Chloroſis.*

Anatomical examinations after Death.

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Chloroſis cum ſpirandi difficultate & convulſionibus ſuccedentibus.	Lympha in thorace & pulmones pure exeſi.
Cordis palpitationibus ſtipatur, & ſyncopem lethalem accerſit.	Cor ſanguine concreto turgens, valvulæ deformes & quaſi oſſeæ.
Chlorotica ſubito extinguitur.	Ovarium ſiniſtrum ingens.
Chlorotica difficile ſpirat & convulſionibus aggreditur.	Pulmones putridi.
Chlorotica centum & amplius venæ ſectiones intra annum paſſa ſyncope de medio tollitur.	Cerebrum & vaſa ſanguifera ſanguine vacua. Ventriculus contractus.

1. Theſe ends may be produced by neutral ſalts, aloetics, mercurials, and antimonials, given as evacuants and alteratives.

2. By air, exerciſe, warm medicated baths, diverting the mind, riding on horſeback.

3. By chalybeates, bark, Spa, Pyrmont, Bath, ſimilar waters, and an attention to proper diet.

The diſorder, however, being ſlow in its advances, and ſeldom attended with immediate danger, the attempts to cure ſhould be conducted gradually: but the diſeaſe is not to be neglected; the aſſiſtance of art is, in moſt caſes, abſolutely neceſſary.

The depraved humours may be evacuated, and glandular obſtruction removed, by aloetics and calomel ad gr. ſs. vel j., once, twice, or thrice in the week; and the blood may be accelerated and changed by an electuary of *limatur. mart. ſpec. aromat.* and *conſ. roſar.* ter de die.

Manna and *cremor tartari*, *rhubarb*, *jalap*, and *nitre*, are, in various occaſions, neceſſary. The application of any of the above remedies, according to the circumſtances of caſes and conſtitutions

conſtitutions of patients, muſt be left to the ſkill of the preſcriber.

To the *plethoric*, the ſaline preparations, diſſolved and united with *aloetics*, may be proper.

To the pale, languid, and hyſterical, the *aloetics* alone, or joined with the *fœtid gums*, and in all obſtinate caſes, the *mercurials*, as *merc. dulc. ſex ſubl. ad gr. ſs*; at proper diſtances may be adminiſtered conjointly with aloetics, or bitter laxatives.

In the intermediate days may be given *horis duabus ante prandium quotidie*, with or without *chalybeates*; as light correctors of the ſtomach,

Elix. aloës.
—— myrrh. c.
Tinct. ſacra. ad ʒi vel ʒiſs.
—— Rhei ad ʒij. in quovis vehiculo appropriato
Pil. gummoſs. ad gr. v. cum
— Rufi ad gr. iij.
Extract. cathart. ad gr. iij.
—— Rhabarb. cum gentian.
—— —— —— ſabin,
Gum amoniac.
—— galban.
—— myrrh. ad ʒſs. cum kali pura ϑſs. et ferro vitriolato gr. iij. iv. or v. in aq. puleg. ʒij.

As

As gentle alteratives.

Cinnabar factitium.

Æthiops mineralis.

Pulv. merc. dulc. lot. cum ſulph. aurat. ant. ad gr. j. ter de die in Pill. or what is called Plummer's pill.

To reſtore and invigorate the ſolids and quicken the circulation.

Rubigo ferri ad ℈j.

Tinct. flor. martial. ad ʒj. cum infus. amar. ter de die.

Elix. vitriol. dulc. ad ʒj.

———— acid. ad gtt. xv, cum decocto cort. Peruv. vel infuſo amaro.

Lixivium martis ad gtt. xx.

Vinum chalybeatum ad ʒij. vel ℥ſs,

———— amarum ad ℥ſs. cum aliquo vehiculo.

Pulv. cortex Peruv. ad ʒſs. ex cyatho lactis vaccini bis vel ter de die.

But what has been found, after above twenty years experience, and in ſome thouſands of female and other caſes, an excellent corrector of the moſt depraved ſtate of the fluids, is my *pulvis mineralis purificans*, which is prepared in the following manner:

Pulvis mineralis purificans fortior.

℞. Flor. ſulph. pulv. ſal nitr. argent. viv. aa. ℔j. terantur ſimul in mortario vitreo vel lapideo donec perfectiſſima unitas facta ſit. Doſis e gr. xv. ad ʒſs. in aqua hordeata, ter de die.

Pulvis

Pulvis mineralis purificans mitior.

℞. Flor. ſulph. argent. viv. aa. ℔ſs. pulv. ſal. nitr. puriſſ. ℔j. miſce ut ſupra.

The aloetic and calomel pill ſhould be preſcribed at the ſame time.

Cauſe-removing remedies for the firſt intention.

Formulæ remediorum.

No. 1. ℞. Tart. emet. gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. ſs.
Aq. com. ℥iſs.
Magneſ. alb. uſt. gr. xx. M. f. hauſtus bis vel ter in ſeptimana ſumendus.

No. 2. ℞. Calomel gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. ſs. vel gr. j.
Pil. Rufi gr. iij. M. accuratiſſime f. pilula ſemel bis vel ter in ſeptimana ſumenda.

No. 3. ℞. Pil. gummoſ.
— ex. colocynth. cum aloe aa. ℥j.
M. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. capiat unam mane & nocte ſuperbibendo ℥ij. aquæ menth. vel infuſi pulegii cum ℥j. tinct. flor. mart.

After the foregoing evacuants the following remedies are proper:

No. 4. ℞ Tinct. melampod. ℥j. capiat coch. parvul. (tea ſpoonful) ex infus. fol. puleg. mane, horâ undecima quotidie: vel,

No. 5. ℞. Elix. aloës ℥vj.
Tinct. aromat. ℥ij. M. capiat gtt. lx. bis vel ter de die ex cyatho aquæ parvo: vel,

No. 6. ℞. Vin. Chalybeat. ℥iſs.

Tinct.

Tinct. ſacr. ʒſs. M. capiat ʒij. ter de die ex cyatho infus. flor. chamæmel.

No. 7. ℞. Elix. aloës ʒiſs.
Lixiv. mart. ʒſs. M. capiat gtt. xxx. vel lx. bis de die, ut ſupra.

No. 8. ℞. Elix. myrrh. comp. ʒiſs.
Aloës ʒſs. M. capiat. gtt. lx. ad ʒij. bis vel ter de die ex liquore appropriato.

Any of the above preparations may be made into draughts, or mixtures, with the aqua puleg. or aqua mentha; with an addition of camphor julap, if neceſſary.

No. 9. ℞. Conſ. cort. aurant. ʒiſs.
Chalyb. cum ſulph. præp. aa. ʒiij.
Spec. aromat. ʒij.
Syr. ſimp. q. s.
M. f. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. bis in die ſuperbibend. ʒij. infus. amar.

No. 10. ℞. Lac. ſulph. ℈ſs.
Rubig. ferri præpar. gr. xv.
Myrrh. pulv. gr. xx.
Spec. aromat. gr. iv. M. f. pulv. bis in die ſumend. e coch. ſyrup. ſimp.

By ſuch remedies the offices of the ſtomach, inteſtines, and lacteal veſſels are reſtored; the glutinous or ſerous matter is diminiſhed, evacuated, or changed; a more healthful and nutritious chyle is prepared and abſorbed, the red particles of blood increaſe, the lips

lips begin to aſſume their natural colour; the arterial ſyſtem acquiring ſtrength and elaſticity, the uterine veſſels open, and the menſtrual ſalutary evacuation becomes regular.

Practical Admonitions and Obſervations.

Bleeding ſhould never be preſcribed, except to robuſt, full habits, and when the diſorder is recent.

Chalybeates agree beſt with the cold leucophlegmatic conſtitutions: all alcalines ſhould be avoided at the time they are adminiſtered.

In full, plethoric habits, the neutral ſalts, or cremor tartar joined with cathartics, may be proper, and even the preparations of hellebore; but this laſt is rarely neceſſary; and one great objection to its uſe is, its draſtic effects, as remarked by Hippocrates.

Pediluvia are uſeful, of ſalt, warm water, balm, pennyroyal and ſavin: but they ſhould not be uſed in œdematous ſwellings; but, inſtead, frictions applied to the feet and legs, and a roller of thin flannel.

Cold,

Cold, humid air, acid fruits, and moiſt, or aqueous diet, ſhould be avoided. A light nutritious food, of a dry nature, and a glaſs of wine, in ſome caſes may be uſeful.

The quantity of fluids in the body ſhould be leſſened by a partial abſtinence from liquids; this alone has proved a cure; probably, by removing the lateral preſſure from the arteries, rendering more dry and elaſtic the fibres, and reſtoring more vigorous power of contraction.

Exerciſe of riding, jumping, dancing, running up ſtairs; opening the cheſt by the dumb bell, or by leaden weights made at the plumbers, for exerciſing the arms, ſhould be ſtrongly enforced.

The mind ſhould be diverted with various objects, and the paſſions excited, if poſſible.

The Bath waters have been known to cure the chloroſis, when moſt other methods have failed.

The gentleſt method of cure, with little or no medicine, ſhould be firſt adopted; then the milder remedies, and ſo gradually to the moſt powerful; but great care ſhould be taken never to preſcribe a remedy more violent than the diſeaſe.

On the SUPPRESSION *of the* MENSES.

The appearance of the menſes in females is commonly from the fourteenth year to the fifteenth: but this varies in different conſtitutions; for ſome have the catamenia ſooner, and experience its total ſuppreſſion before the age of forty.

The accidental ceſſation of this periodical and accuſtomed diſcharge is called a ſuppreſſion.

The remote cauſes of ſuppreſſion are, ſudden cold; a ſuperabundance of the coagulable lymph in the blood; grief, or fear; previous diſeaſes; powerful evacuations, or an improper adminiſtration of aſtringents.

The immediate cauſes ſeem to be, a want of due force, or a preternatural reſiſtance in the uterine veſſels, probably from a diminiſhed force in the heart and arterial ſyſtem; this may ariſe from extreme plethora, or relaxation; tumours in or near the uterus, or its coalition, may cauſe the menſtrual ſuppreſſion, &c. *

During

* *Suppreſſio menſium.*

Anatomical Examination after Death.	
Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Suppreſſi menſes, cum ventris intumeſcentia & reſpiratione læſa.	Hydrops cyſticus.

During pregnancy, ſome few exceptions to the contrary, the menſes are totally ſuppreſſed.

In

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Suppreſſi menſes cum doloribus & abdominis intumeſcentia.	Uterus effuſo ſanguine turget & membranaceo proceſſu obturatur.
——Ab immani pathemate & oculos tumet & dolet.	Exoſtoſis in fundo obſita.
——Cum tumore in regione iliaca.	Hydrops tubarum.
——Totum intumeſcit abdomen menſibus ſufflaminatis.	Hydrops cyſticus.
——Accerſunt hæmoptyſium & tabem.	Pulmones pure exeſi, aqua in thorace & pericardio.
Menſes ſuppreſſi accerſunt, cachexiam.	Sanguis concretis in corde.
——Item.	Serum in thorace ſtagnans, pulmones perduri & ſanguis in cordis thalamis.
——Aſcitem cum dolore immani circa pubem.	Uterus ingens & ſcirrhoſus.
——Ventris dolores, abortum concitantes & quibus ſe adjungit febris cum tumore ventris & ſudoribus uberrimis.	Colluvies ſanguinea in abmine.
——Ventris intumeſcentiam.	Moles carnea 34 libras ponderans.

Menſes

In the ſuppreſſions of unimpregnated women, a fullneſs and diſinclination to motion is ſome-

Symptomata.	*Exciſpicia.*
Menſes Diarrhœam colliquativam cum ſpirandi difficultate, tuſſi & ſudore immodico.	Pulmonum tubercula.
——Genitalium inflammationem.	Ulcus uteri.
——Tumorem in regione pubis cum reſpiratione læſa, pedum œdemate, febre lenta, &c.	Tumores veſiculares in abdomine.
—— Lypothymiam frequentem.	Lapides in pericardio, pulmones ſcirrhoſi & ſubnigricantes.
Menſium ſuppreſſio dolorem circa inguen comitatur & tandem hæmorrhageam acerſit enormem.	Ulcus uteri.
Suppreſſio menſium ſuccedanea febri quartanæ & tumori in hypochondrio ſiniſtro.	Tubarum purulentia.
——Animi perturbationi & acerſit aſthma cum tuſſi & ſputis purulentis.	Pulmones & inteſtina inflammata, glandulæ ventriculi tumidæ.
——Venæ ſectionibus crebro inſtitutis cui denuo ſuccedunt ventris dolor & aſcites.	Hydrops ovariorum, uterus ſcirrhoſus.
Suffaminantur menſes poſt caſum ab alto denuo fluunt & oriuntur dolores cum abdominis prominentiis quamplurimis.	Colluvies ſanguinea in abdomine.

ſometimes perceived; floridity, fluſhings, or paleneſs; pains in the loins, groins, and head; faintings, nauſea, loſs of appetite, and, in time, all the functions, whether natural, vital, or animal, become depraved. Hæmorrhages happen from various parts; ſcirrhus, dropſies, ulcers of the womb, ſometimes ſucceed, and even apoplexy.

As uterine obſtructions frequently ariſe without any manifeſt cauſe or injury to the conſtitution, the abſolute neceſſity of their removal becomes a queſtion of importance, before any mode of medical treatment is adopted. Natural and ſecret cauſes operate for

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Poſt ſuppruſſionem, urinæ difficultas. Iſchiadicus dolor ſæviens. Hyſtericæ convulſiones, vomitus frequentes, ciborum averſatio.	Muſculi erant quaſi excarnes, vix ullum ſanguinis veſtigium uſquam ſupererat. Venter totus falſo opplebatur ſero. Ventriculus exiguus, contractus. Ren dexter plures habebat calculos; ſordium ulcus & fœtidum erat in collo uteri.
A ſuppreſſione, pectoris dolor, difficilis reſpiratio.	Graveolentia ex utero & vicinis partibus maxima exiſtebat, omnes exterius livebant a prægreſſa inflammatione.

Virgini

for ſalutary purpoſes, far above the reach of human comprehenſion: their effects are evidently perceived, but their inveſtigation eludes the ſearch of the moſt acute philoſophical inquirer. A buſy phyſician, then, either by miſconceiving the caſe, or by a miſapplication of remedies, though authoriſed by the beſt medical writers, might do much miſchief by a few preſcriptions. Certain conditions ſhould be eſtabliſhed, founded on experience, reaſon, and the nature of each individual caſe.*

Sup-

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Virgini annos 20, natæ ſanguis per uterum reſpondere deſiit, ante duos annos, dolores ad hypochondria orti ſunt, dein venter intumuit ad magnam molem.	Venter ampliſſimus, vis aquæ ingens; præcipuum & peculiare vitium in teſtibus, tubis, ipſoque utero erat. Omnes hæ partes concretæ erant cum alis veſpertilionum in maſſam tuberoſam informam.
Fœmina, poſt ſuppreſſionem a quatuor menſibus, hyſtericâ affectione dein etiam mania laborabat.	Teſtes albi, duri, ſcirrhoſi, æquo majores ſuo, pondere quaſi pone uterum tracti.

* In obſtructed menſes it might be reaſonably expected, that Sydenham, Boerhaave, Aſtruc, Pitcairn, and the late Dr. Shaw, phyſician to King George the Second, had been directed by reaſon and experience: but *calomel*, a *mercurial*, is ordered by Sydenham

Suppreſſions ſucceeding accidental hæmorrhages, violent evacuations, fevers, or any other debilitating diſeaſes, ſhould, in general, be treated only with tonics, or ſometimes without medicine, by air, exerciſe, &c.

Partial or total ſuppreſſions, from changes of air, climates, ſeaſons, or ſlight colds, unleſs they continue long, and produce ill effects, ſhould be left to nature.

Suppreſſions producing inflammatory and other ſymptoms of inconvenience, require medical aſſiſtance to remove the complaints, or promote the diſcharge: but every attempt of this nature ſhould be founded on a clear knowledge of phyſiology, the peculiarities of the conſtitution, and effects of remedies; it

ham and Aſtruc, in the doſe of 20 gr.; by Boerhaave, 10 gr.; Shaw, from 10 to 15 grains at bed-time, and of jalap 20 gr., compound powder of ſena 20 gr., and ſix grains of vitriolated tartar mixed together, or 20 grains of ſome draſtic aloetic pill the following morning: the ſame has been copied by Brooks and others. Skilful and experienced phyſicians indubitably muſt know, that homicide, or irremediable injury to conſtitutions, are likely to be the conſequences of ſuch dangerous practices. What unſafe guides muſt ſuch writers, though in many inſtances juſtly celebrated, be to the generality of junior practitioners; and the more ſo, as they are univerſally read, admired, and recommended! The doſes are 20 or 40 times more than it is, in general, ſafe to give, eſpecially to delicate women.

it ſhould be conducted with great circumſpection, taking particular care to be certain the female is not pregnant; which is beſt known by the fullneſs of the breaſts: for if the breaſts be flaccid, and the veſſels not turgid, pregnancy may not be ſupppoſed to be preſent.

Sudden ſuppreſſions during the diſcharge, from cold, or any other cauſe, are often removed by repeatedly bathing the feet and legs in warm water and common ſalt, half an hour or more, night and morning, or at night alone. This is excellent for recent colds in general. At the ſame time, a few grains of the *pilula Ruſi*, with or without the *pilul. gummos*, may be uſeful.

The efforts, however, to produce the flow of the catamenia, ſhould be particularly directed about the time of the ſucceeding period. Then warm bathing to the legs, and fomentations for the abdomen, will be proper; and from 20 to 40 drops of the ſpirit nitr. dulc. joined with, from gtt. xxxx. ad 3j. of the tinctura ſacra, or elix. aloës, and taken in penny-royal water twice or thrice in the day, a little warm.

In

In all inflammations, difficulty of breathing, and head-ach, ariſing from plethora, or in the pleuriſy, bleeding and the antiphlogiſtic regimen will be proper: but when the fluids become depraved by a long ſuppreſſion, the methods of treatment recommended in the *chloroſis* will beſt ſucceed; for theſe purpoſes, mineral alteratives, as the plumber's pill, cinnabar, &c. or my *pulvis mineralis purificans*, have produced excellent effects*; or other mercurials joined with antimonial ſulphurs, &c. may be preſcribed.

Of the immoderate FLOW *of the* MENSES.

When the menſtrual evacuation exceeds in quantity, or happens more frequently than uſual, and cauſes debility, it is conſidered an immoderate flow of the menſes.

1. The remote cauſes may be nouriſhing high diet, heating liquors, violent ſtrainings or exerciſe, particularly dancing; violent paſſions of the mind.

2. Coſtiveneſs, or any efforts that direct or cauſe a great flow of blood to the uterus.

3. An

*The methods recommended in the ſcirrhous breaſts, as cauſe-removing remedies in glandular and other obſtructions, are moſt likely to ſucceed by a long perſeverance.

3. An over-diſtenſion of the extreme branches of the uterine veſſels, from frequent abortions, child-bearing, difficult and preternatural labors.

4. Living in warm chambers, an inactive life; too much freedom in the uſe of weakening liquids, as tea, &c.

5. The more *immediate cauſes* are plethora and floridity, a ſerous or acrid ſtate of the blood; for large uterine hæmorrhages, by diſcharging the red particles, deprave and render *acrid* all the human fluids, *relax* the ſolids, and produce *febricula*; theſe jointly often become the cauſes of future hæmorrhages.

6. An impetuous force in the arteries, and an impeded circulation in the veins; by which the lateral appendices in the uterus are diſtended, and often become flaccid, and incapable of reſiſting the increaſed motion and quantity of the blood; hence they are ruptured, or corroded by an acrid ſtate of the blood, and a violent irreſiſtible flux is the conſequence. This being repeated, produces a general relaxation of the uterine veſſels, and the relaxation cauſes a continuance of the complaint; for, when by nutritious diet the veſſels

veſſels begin to fill, the blood, finding a weak reſiſtance in theſe parts, opens again, and unloads itſelf by frequent and often irregular uterine hæmorrhages.

7. Extraneous bodies in the uterus, ſcirrhus, ulcer, abortions.

8. In the mind a great ſenſibility.

The ſymptoms and effects of an immoderate flux of the menſes are in proportion to the quantity diſcharged, and ſtrength of the conſtitution *. A large flow may be ſalutary to

* Anatomical Examinations after Death.

Morbi a catameniis immodicis.

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia cadaverum.*
Menſes immodici, cum doloribus ventris conatibus hyſtericis, crurum & abdominis intumeſcentia.	Tumores cyſtici in abdomine.
—— Accedunt tumores in hypogaſtrio & dein hydrops.	Tumores ſteatomatoſi circa ovaria, aqua in abdomine.
Menſes immoderati fluunt cum tumore in regione pubis.	Tumor ſteatomatoſus circa uterum.

Sectis cadaveribus per hunc morbum extinctorum in conſpectum veniebant *pulmones* perduri, tumidi, infarcti, pure exeſi.

Inteſtina contracta, purulenta, putrida.

Meſenterium infarctum, tumens, induratum.

Hepar, maximum, ſcirrhoſum.

Lien durus, ingens, ſanioſus.

Pancreas mole maximum, ſcirrhoſum.

Renes

to ſome, but highly injurious to others. It may, by evacuating all the red particles, produce paleneſs, faintings, coldneſs of the extremities, convulſions, œdematous ſwellings in the feet, cachexy, dropſy, hectic fever, and conſumption.

The manner of cure ſhould be accommodated to the various cauſes. In caſes of plethora and floridity, bleeding is proper, and a very abſtemious diet; in the depraved ſtate of the fluids, a cure will ſeldom be effected, but by reſtoring the blood to a proper conſiſtence, and ſtrengthening the ſolids; extraneous bodies, if poſſible, ſhould be removed; the ſcirrhus and ulcer require a diſtinct and peculiar treatment.

The time of adminiſtering remedies ſhould be well conſidered; while the flux be preſent, great caution ſhould be uſed. The *ſudden ſtoppage* has produced dangerous diſorders, as coughs, ſpitting of blood, the ſcirrhus and cancer

Renes calculoſi, a ſede dimoti.

Uterus ſanguine ſcatens, ſcirrhoſus, quaſi cartilagineus, purulentus, exeſus, diſruptus.

In *pectore* & *abdomine*, ſtagnationes ſeroſæ & ſordidæ.

Ovariorum & *tubarum* hydrops; tumores ingentes, ſcirrhoſi, ſteatomatoſi, &c.

cancer of the womb *; therefore the attempts, in general, at this time ſhould be to moderate the diſcharge by reſt, tranquillity of mind, and a diminiſhed diet, but eſpecially of the liquid kind to the plethoric. In weakneſs, the habit muſt be ſupported by light, nutritious, dry diet, and a glaſs of red port. Hot liquid food, as caudle, &c. increaſes the evil: but an almoſt *total abſtinence* from food and liquids, by cutting off the ſupply, will avail more than any thing in ſafely checking the diſcharge, in conjunction with *cold* air.

If theſe methods fail, and it become neceſſary to check the diſcharge, the treatment ſhould be conducted according to the diverſity of conſtitutions and caſes.

Remedies for the plethoric and florid before the body is much relaxed.

Small and ſometimes repeated bleedings in the arm.

Gentle

* From having ſeen a great variety of cancerous, and other womb caſes, I muſt obſerve that there have been many inſtances in which thoſe diſorders may be traced, to be owing to an ill-timed attempt to ſtop the menſtrual diſcharge by ſtrong ſtyptics.

Gentle laxatives of oil and manna, ſal polychreſtum, magneſia, rhubarb, or cremor tartar.

Terra foliata tartari ad ʒſs.
Sal nitrum ad ℈j. diſſolved.
Miſtura ſalina.
Tinctura roſarum cum nitro.

Which may be adminiſtered alone, or occaſionally with

Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoffm. cum nitro.
Elix. paregor. ad ʒj.
Tinctura Thebaic. ad gtt. v.
Julep. e camphor. ad ʒſs.

Cloths dipped in brandy and vinegar, equal parts, and applied cold to the loins.

Cucurbiculæ applicatæ mammis ſine ſacrificatione.

A cool room, lying coolly on a couch, an abſtemious diet; but, above all, *tranquillity* of mind.

Remedies for the pallid, nervous, and relaxed,

Cortex Peruvianus ad ʒſs.
Terra Japonica ad ℈ij.
Sanguis dracon. ad ℈ij.
Elix. vitriol. dulc. ad ʒj.
——— ——— paregor. ad ʒj.

Infuſ.

Infus. fol papav. cum ſummitatibus milleſolii & floribus chamomillæ vulgaris.

Extract. cort. Peruv. ad ℈ij.

——— Ligni Campechen. ʒſs.

Camphora ad gr. v.

Rad. valerian. ſylves. ad ℈ij.

Tinctura roſar. ad ʒij.

——— corticis Peruv. ad ʒij.

——— terræ Japon. ad ʒiſs.

Confect. damocrat. ad ℈j.

Aq. Selteran. cum vino rubro.

Liquor. anodynus mineralis Hoffmanni cum vel ſine pauco opii.

More powerful remedies of the ſtyptic kind, which are rarely neceſſary, and which ſhould be uſed very cautiouſly, are,

Alumen ad gr. xij. diſſolved.

Serum aluminoſum ad ʒiij. ter de die.

Lixivium martis ad gtt. xv. in aqua.

Vitriol. alb. ad gr. ſs. } Diſſolved in decocto cort. Peruv. vel tinct. roſar.

——— cœrul. ad ⅛ gr. }

Colcothar vitriol. ad gr. xx.

Tinctura ſtyptica ad ʒj.

Elix. vitriol. acid. ad gtt. xx, in aq. menth. vel pura.

Flores zinci ad gr. v. diſſolved in aq. roſar.

The *tinctura ſaturnina*, and the *ſaccharum ſaturni*, are recommended by authors; but are very dangerous remedies: for beſides their poiſonous qualities, they may occaſion

palſies

palſies of the *ſtomach*, *inteſtines*, or other parts; and though they may have ſucceeded in ſome inſtances, who knows how fatal their conſequences have been in others? It is the abſurdly drawing *general* concluſions from *particular inſtances of ſucceſs*, that the uſe of ſuch preparations, and other numerous errors, have been adopted. When methods of cure are ſafe and innocent, even though ariſing from ſuperſtition, or ignorance in the preſcriber, they cannot do miſchief, except looſing time in the attempts to cure; but all poiſonous and hazardous remedies, like lead internally, ſhould be baniſhed from practice. It may happen, that all medical attempts to ſtop the immoderate flux may, in ſome few inſtances, prove fruitleſs, and death may be the conſequence: in which caſe, the conſciouſneſs of having adopted a ſafe practice, muſt be not only ſatisfactory to the friends, but likewiſe to every practitioner of integrity.

FORMULÆ.

FORMULÆ.

For the plethoric and florid, when the flux is recent.

Gentle, cooling laxatives, in theſe caſes, ſhould be cautiouſly preſcribed, as any irritation on the rectum may ſenſibly affect the uterus, and increaſe the flux. For the ſame reaſon, all *warm* clyſters are abſolutely improper.

Laxatives.

No. 11. ℞. Crem. tart. ʒj.
—— Mann. opt. ʒſs. ſolv.
Aq. com. ʒij.
M. f. hauſtus, pro re nata ſumendus.

No. 12. ℞. Ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒvj.
Mannæ opt. ʒſs. ad ʒj. ſolv. in
Aquæ puræ ʒiſs.; deinde adde
Mucilag. gum. arab. ʒij. M. f. hauſtus.

No. 13. ℞. Pulv. rhei. gr. xij. ad ʒſs.
Magneſ. alb. calcinat. ʒiſs.
Aq. menth. vulg. ſimp. ʒiſs.
Tinct. ſenæ ʒiij. M. f. hauſtus.

To check the impetuous circulation,

Sanguis mittendus ad ʒvj. ʒviij. vel ʒxij.,

If there be no *contra-indication*.

No.

No. 14. ℞. Sal. nitr. gr. x. ad ℈j.
Aq. puræ ℥iſs. ſyr. papav. errat. ℥j. M. f. hauſtus, ter vel quater in die ſumendus.

To this draught may be added of julep e camphor. ℥ſs. and inſtead of the ſyr. papav. from 3 to 10 drops of tinctura thebaica, if it may be ſafely given.

No. 15. ℞. Tinct. roſar. ℥iſs.
Sal nitr. puriſſ. gr. v. ad xij. vel ad ℥ſs. M. f. hauſtus, quarta quaque hora ſumendus.

No. 16. ℞. Liquor anodyn. min. Hoffman. gtt. xx. ad lx.
Aq. puræ ℥iſs.
Sal nitr. g. vel ℈j. ſyr. papav. errat. ℥j. M. f. hauſtus, ter vel quater de die ſumendus.

All ſtimulants and cordials ſhould be, if poſſible, omitted: but, in caſe of nauſea, to the foregoing draughts may be added,

Tinctura ſtomachica ad ℥ij.
——— cinnamomi ad ℥ij.
Confect. cardiac. ad gr. xv.
Aq. cinnam. ſimp.
— menth. vulg. ſimp.
— nuc. moſchat. ℥ij.

FORMULÆ.

For the pallid, nervous, and relaxed.

Laxatives, if abſolutely neceſſary, are,

Tinctura rhei ad ʒſs.
——— ſenæ ad ʒvj. in aqua.
Magneſia alba calc. ad ʒij.
Lac ſulph.
Rhubarb. ad gr. xij. cum ʒj. crem. tart.

To check the immoderate flux:

No. 17. ℞. Tinct. Terræ Japon. ʒij.
Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒj.
Aq. com. ʒiſs. M. f. hauſtus.

No. 18. ℞. Tinct. roſar. ʒij.
Vitriol. alb. gr. ¼ vel ½. M. f. hauſtus, bis vel ter in die ſumendus.

No. 19. ℞. Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. vel x.
Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒj. M. f. hauſtus quarta quaque hora ſumendus.

For the nervous, who cannot bear the more powerful opiates:

No. 20. ℞. Camphor. pulv. gr. iij. ad v.
Pulv. rad. valerian. ſylv. gr. xx. ad ℈ij.
Confect. democrat. gr. x. ad xv. ſyr. ſimp. q. s. M. f. bol. ter in die ſumendus ſuperbibendo ʒij. tincturæ roſarum, vel infuſ. rad. valerian.

If

If great pain attend, and opiates be thought neceſſary;

No. 21. ℞. Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoff. gtt. xx. ad xl.
Decoct. pectoral. ℥iſs.
Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. ad x. bis vel ter in die ſumendus.

If a cough ſhould be troubleſome;

No. 22. ℞. Elix. paregor. ℥j.
Aq. cum ℥iſs. M. f. hauſtus ter vel quater in die ſumendus.

Or an oleous or ſperma ceti draught with opium.

In this laſt caſe, all aſtringents are improper.

More powerful preſcriptions.

No. 23. ℞. Extract. cort. Peruv. ℥ſs.
Aq. cinnam. ſimp. ℥ij. ſyr. papav. errat. ℥ſs. M. capiat coch. parv. tertia quaque hora, in tinct. roſar.

Of the ſtyptic kind, and moſt powerful, but not always ſafe, and rarely neceſſary:

No. 24. ℞. Flor. zinc. gr. v. ad x.
Aq. roſar. ℥ij. M. f. hauſtus, ter vel quater de die ſumendus.

Ligatures applied to the extremeties are advantageous.

No. 25. ℞. Alumen. gr. x. ſolve in aq. cinnam. ſimp. ℥ij.
Tinct. Thebaic. gtt. v. M. f. hauſtus ter vel quater
de die ſumendus.

It happens ſometimes, that neither opiates nor ſtyptic remedies will ſtop the hæmorrhage, until the quantity of blood be greatly leſſened in the whole body, and then, the emptineſs of the veſſels proves the cure.

Theſe are the general methods of treatment during the immoderate diſcharge of the catamenia: but the utmoſt efforts ſhould be adopted to prevent hæmorrhages; this can beſt be effected between the periods.

The treatment between the periods of the diſcharge ſhould be directed,

1. To prevent the fullneſs of the veſſels.

2. To ſtrengthen the ſolids in general, and the uterine veſſels in particular.

3. To reſtore the blood from a ſerous, or acrid, to a juſt conſiſtence, and a mild balſamic ſtate.

4. To allay nervous ſenſibility.

As hæmorrhages ſeldom happen, unleſs there be a ſufficient quantity of blood in the body to rupture the veſſels, one principal part of the cure conſiſts in not only obtaining, but

preſerving

preſerving a diminiſhed quantity of blood, by a great *abſtinence* from liquids; for by this means, the very ſources of ſupply are cut off. If little be drank, the blood veſſels, which are, or have been diſtended beyond their proper dimenſions, will gradually contract themſelves to their original ſize, acquire ſtrength daily, and not having ſo large a column of blood to circulate, they will reſiſt the morbid diſpoſition to evacuate ſo violently the catamenia. If the uſual ſupply of liquids, of whatever quality, be indulged in, the proſpects of cure will be very doubtful, and in ſome caſes impoſſible. Tea, coffee, and ſuch liquids, therefore, ſhould be avoided, or uſed very ſparingly.

For breakfaſt.—Hartſhorn ſhavings, or iſinglaſs, boiled in water to a jelly, a little of which may be mixed with milk; but the quantity ſhould never exceed a ſmall tea-cupful or two, with a dry toaſt.

Simolina, rice, ſago, and ſalep, or a thin chocolate, with ſome ground rice.

If tea cannot be diſpenſed with, it may be mixed with the yolk of a new-laid egg and milk: but in all caſes, the ſtate of the ſtomach,

and

and inclinations of each individual, ſhould be conſulted and accommodated in the manner leaſt likely to diſagree.

Dinner.—All ſoups and liquid food whatever ſhould be avoided, as likewiſe the ſalt and ſpicy. Fiſh may be eaten with ſimple gravy, or beef tea, inſtead of butter.

Lean parts of meat, roaſt or boiled, and potatoes or poultry, vegetables, or leguminous food, will not be proper; as theſe laſt cauſe flatulency, and excite a ſtimulus.

Large draughts of ſmall beer, water, or any other effervеſcing liquors, are improper; but, inſtead, a little wine and water, and even porter, may be uſed; though the quantity ſhould be proportioned to the other food, conſtitution, and exerciſes of the patient.

Fruits ſhould be likewiſe uſed very moderately.

Tea-time.—No tea, or not above one ſmall diſh, ſhould be drank in the afternoon.

Supper.—Little or no ſupper, except dry bread or toaſt, and a ſmall portion of wine and water, or porter.

Bleeding a few days before the diſcharge is expected, is ſometimes uſeful.

Coſtiveneſs

Coſtiveneſs ſhould be particularly attended to, prevented, or removed: but this without purging, or exciting much ſtimulus in the rectum. Lac ſulphur and calcined magneſia, cremor tartari, lenitive electuary, ſal polychreſtum, manna, oil, ſtewed prunes, rhubarb in powder or extract; or, in ſome caſes, the pilula ex colocynth. ſimplicior. ad gr. iij. vel vj. according to the diverſity of the conſtitutions, may be recommended.

Gentle exerciſe and clear air will prove greatly advantageous.

Theſe methods, without, or with little medicine, will frequently ſucceed in removing the very cauſes of the uterine hæmorrhage; by leſſening the blood's motion and quantity, changing its quality, and ſtrengthening the ſolids in general.

To reſtore the uterine veſſels in particular, general or partial cold bathing in the ſea, or cold bath, or in what the French call *bidée*, may be uſeful, when uſed with great circumſpection: but, above all, placidity of mind, and reſiſting thoſe natural impulſes, as much as poſſible, that direct a flux of fluids to the uterus.

When

When repeated hæmorrhages have made great ravages in the conſtitution; when the craſſamentum of the blood is, in a great meaſure, depraved or deſtroyed; the face extremely pallid; a ſerum or lymph circulates through the whole ſyſtem, and all the functions, natural, animal, and vital, are injured; the attempts to cure muſt be varied according to circumſtances. In general, however, the bark, vitriolic acid, bitters, and reſtoratives, in conjunction with the preſcribed diet, may often ſucceed. If the blood be in an acrid ſtate, then the *pulvis mineralis purificans*, cinnabarine preparations, and demulcents, properly applied, may avail: but if any of the principal viſcera be very much affected, all medical aſſiſtance whatever may prove fruitleſs, and an incurable dropſy may be the conſequence.

To allay nervous ſenſibility, the mind muſt be particularly attended to, and all objects or ideas that engage the attention, or excite emotions of the ſoul, ſhould be ſuppreſſed or removed. In theſe circumſtances, patients ſhould endeavour to ſecond the efforts of the phyſician, by determined calmneſs and placidity

cidity of the mind; for without this, medicine will ſcarcely ſucceed. The remedies moſt proper will be thoſe of the nervous kind, which allay irritation, without heating the habit or quickening the circulation, as valerian root, camphor, &c.

Practical Admonitions and Obſervations.

In regulating the neceſſary abſtinence from drinks, no particular ſtandard with regard to quantity can be eſtabliſhed: but this ſhould be determined by the effects liquids have in the conſtitution; the excretions of urine, perſpiration, and the peculiarities of each habit conſidered individually.

An immoderate flow of the menſes is frequently accompanied with nauſea and vomitings, from extreme nervous ſenſibility, and the ſympathetic conſent of parts. In ſuch inſtances both medicine and food increaſe the ſickneſs and vomitings; therefore neither ſhould be adminiſtered. So great is the ſenſibility at ſuch times, that the leaſt ſmell of any thing, not even diſagreeable, will excite vomiting; and every effort to diſcharge

charge upwards what may be on the ſtomach, occaſions a rapid flow of the uterine flux.

The learned Dr. Cullen, of Edinburgh, propoſes this query: whether gentle emetics would not be advantageous in an immoderate uterine hæmorrhage? If long experience and ſtrict obſervation in practice may determine this queſtion, in oppoſition to a viſionary theory, the anſwer is, No; and ſuch a rough practice might, in a few minutes, deſtroy the patient. In moſt of the caſes where the uterine floodings have proved fatal, vomiting is one of the moſt deſtructive ſymptoms; its action always increaſes the diſcharge to a dreadful degree. As, therefore, it ariſes commonly from ſympathy with the uterus, and from no diſeaſe in the ſtomach, increaſing its force by a vomit, muſt more or leſs be attended with dangerous conſequences *.

The

* Practitioners ſhould always recollect, that what may prove very efficacious in one country, may do irreparable miſchief in another. In Scotland, notwithſtanding the coldneſs of the climate, I have ſeen people walking half naked, without ſhoes or ſtockings; the food is chiefly oatmeal and ſmall beer; the habitations

The immediate connection of the uterus and rectum forbids the uſe of warm or laxative clyſters, or irritating purgatives, as they would increaſe the menſtrual evacuation.

No opiates ſhould be uſed, until it be firſt known whether the patient can bear them; for ſmall doſes, even five drops of liquid laudanum, in very nervous and irritable habits, have produced dangerous convulſions.

The more powerful aſtringents, or ſtyptics, ſhould never be uſed but in caſes of the moſt urgent neceſſity, and, even then, in ſmall doſes.

When the patient is recovering, the diet ſhould be nutritious, but ſmall in quantity, and gradually increaſed. The uſual food ſhould not be permitted, until there be no probability of a return of the diſorder.

Of the Fluor Albus, *or* Whites.

A periodical or continual diſcharge of a white, pale, greeniſh, or yellow humor, from

tations unclean. This hard way of living may produce a conſtitution that may bear *rough* and *violent* methods of cure: but practitioners in medicine ſhould be extremely cautious how they introduce German, Dutch, or Scotch methods of practice in London, where people are reared, and live in quite a different manner.

from the uterine veſſels, is called the Fluor Albus*.

It is commonly accompanied with a waſting of the body, paleneſs, debility, headach, pain in the back and loins, loſs of appetite, and nebulous or turbid urine.

The remote cauſes are, a tender and delicate conſtitution of body; too great humidity, either from liquids or moiſt air; coſtiveneſs; ſalt or viſcid diet; too much ſleep or indulgence in bed; a ſedentary life; ſuppreſſion, or an entire ceſſation of the catamenia; frequent abortions; laborious and difficult labors; violent exerciſe; affections of the mind.

The immediate cauſes are a morbid affection of thoſe veſſels in the uterus that pour out the catamenia †.

The

* Synonima & definitiones a variis ſcriptoribus.

Sauvages.—Leucorrhæa ſeroſo-flavæ, vel puriformis materiæ ex utero delapſus.

Linnæus.—Muci e ſinu muliebri effluxus.

Vogelius.—Fluor albus. Nimia muci aut ichoris ex vulva profuſio.

Fr. Hoffmannus.—Cachexia uterina, ſive fluor albus.

J. Juncker.—Fluor albus.

† Authors have not perfectly agreed on this matter.

Hoffman ſays,—Nil itaque eſt dubii, quin per eadem vaſa, vias & poros fluxus materiæ mucidæ contingat, e quibus ipſe menſtruus

The color, conſiſtence, and quality of the fluor albus greatly differ in different conſtitutions.

ſtruus ſanguis fertur, atque hujus adverte evidens argumentum eſt, quod menſibus ſuppreſſis, fluor albus in quibuſdam, loco horum ſuperveniens obſervetur.

Heiſter, ſpeaking de menſtruorum fontibus, p. 81, ſays,—Quibus obſervationibus variiſque rationibus nixus, naturam in hoc negotio variare, & modo per uterum, modo per vaginam, modo forte per utraque loca exire, cum Friendio *, Morgano, & Vatero † exiſtimo.

De Graaf.—Cum de fluore albo menſtruorum nobis hic ſermo ſit, alia difficultas oboritur, num ſcilicet fluor ille, ſi continuus exiſtat, a gonorrhœa ſit diſtinguendus? Ita namque inter ſe conveniunt, ut niſi mentem adhibeat medicus, præ ſimilitudine facile in errorem abeat, quanquam a diverſis partibus procedant, & per diſtincta loca excernantur: ſiquidem fluor iiſdem, quibus menſtrua fluunt, ductibus ejicitur, &c.

———Gonorrhœam vero ex glanduloſo corpore provenire, & per lacunos circum & in meatus urinarii exitu collocatas erumpere, cadaveris alicujus mulieris hoc vitio infecti diſſectio palam fecit; nam utero ejuſque vaginâ innoxiis, corpus glanduloſum ſive proſtatas urethræ circumpoſitas ſolum male affectas vidimus.

Morgagni de ſedibus & cauſis morborum, lib. iii. epiſt. xlvii.

Ob. 11.—Muliebris fluoris fontes in utero plerumque ſunt. Rarum eſt enim quod in Hiſtoria Regiæ Academiæ Pariſienſis legitur; ex amplo alterius ovarii abſceſſu, quocum tuba communicabat, in hanc purulentum ſerum, ex eaque in uterum, ex hoc denique in vaginam defluxiſſe. Ipſe autem uterus ſeri fons eſt multicoloris, aut ſimplicis, aut purulenti, &c.

Ob. 12.—Cum mucum, ſecundum naturam ſe habentem, uteri oſculo, & proximæ cervicis parte abſterſiſſem; comprimendo in-

* In emmenologia. † De utero gravido.

tions. In the florid, it is commonly white and viſcid: but in thoſe of a thin, pale, or ſcorbutic

feriorem uteri fundum, cervicem, & oſculi uterini coronam, prodire ex his locis omnibus, & ordinate quidem, vidi albam craſſiuſculam materiam, quæ unde albus fluor proveniſſet, non obſcure ſignificavit.

Ob. 14.—Cum incidiſſem fundi cavum, inveni humida materia plenum ex albo in flavum & ſubviridem colorem vergente. Qua detorſa, fundi interior facies apparuit, in minuta albida tubercula paſſim excreſcens, &c.

In ſpeaking of the early appearance of the diſorder;

Ob. 15.—Noli autem mirari quod in puella ætatis 14 annorum eſſe potuerit muliebris fluor. Pluribus enim circa pubertatis initia incepit, nonnullis etiam vel multo citius, raro quidem, non ſecus ac raro, ſed revera multo citius menſtruorum fluxus eſt obſervatus. Lege obſervationem nobilis puellæ novem circiter annorum a muliebri fluore perſonatæ, imo alterius quæ illa minor annis duobus, eodem morbo tenebatur, & quaſi ſerum lactis nondum clarificatum emittebat copioſe, non ſine ardore aliquo & pruritu.

In my courſe of female practice, I have known ſimilar inſtances happen at an earlier period.

Many caſes follow of excreſcences being found in the uterus. The diſcharge comes from the mouths of arteries.

Ob. 23. Virginis annos natæ triginta tres, &c.—Interea dum hæc experirer, & iis qui aderant, demonſtrarem, excreſcentias binas animadverti, alteram in fundi latere dextro cervice proximi, alteram paululo infra in eodem cervicis latere. Parva erat utraque & ex veſiculis compacta ſimilibus. Verum ſecando, quæ inferiorem faciebant naturalem mucum dedere, & quæ ſuperiorem, limpidam aquam.

Lieutaud,

ſcorbutic habit, variouſly diſcoloured, ſerous, and ſometimes acrimonious. Theſe varieties ſeem to depend on the ſtate of the blood, and *indicate* the neceſſity of applying *different modes* of cure.

The greateſt number, however, will be cured by the following, or ſimilar pre-

• ſcrip-

Lieutaud, pr. med. j. 538.—Cadaveram ſcrutatio hujuſce intricatiſſimi morbi indolem parum elucidat, quidquid enim inter diſſectionem oculis ſubjicitur, nihil aliud eſt quam effectus morboſus a genuina cauſa multum diſcrepans, id genus ſunt uteri, ovariorum, tubarum, cæterarumque partium genitalium læſiones; horum organorum infarctus, vel inſolita craſſities, exulcerationes, putreſcentia, grangræna, &c.

Nec major lux affulget ex introſpectis viſceribus, quæ diverſimode labefactata ſe præbent.

From a variety of opportunities in examining whether the fluor albus is only a diſcharge from the uterine veſſels or vagina, the following is the reſult of the obſervations.

1. That in plethoric and full habits, this diſcharge does ſometimes flow from the veſſels or glandular parts of the vagina; and when this is the caſe, it is white, viſcid, and benign.

2. That in cachetic habits it principally flows from the uterus, and is various in color and conſiſtence; but commonly of a thinniſh and ſerous nature; and if acrimonious, a deeper tinge is ſeen round the margin of the ſpot.

ſcriptions; but particularly the debilitated.

No. 26. ℞. Calomel ppt. gr. vj.
Pil. Rufi ℈ij. M. f. pilulæ No. xij. ſumat unam omni nocte, vel alterna quaque nocte.

No. 27. ℞. Limat. mart. præp. ʒvj. vel colcoth. vitriol. pulv. ʒſs.
Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒj.
Spec. Aromat. ʒij.
Syr. ſimp. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat q. N. M. bis vel ter in die.

This diſorder is not common to the plethoric and florid; but when it happens, an antiphlogiſtic regimen, cooling evacuations, occaſionally, and exerciſe, will beſt ſucceed,

Pulv. rad. jalap. ad gr. xij.
Nitrum ad gr. xv.
Sal polychreſtum ad ʒj.
Cremor tartari ad ʒij.
Electuarium lenitivum ad ʒij.
Magneſia alba ad ʒiſs.
Lac ſulphuris ad ʒj.
Spirit. nitri dulc. ad gtt. xxx.

No. 28. ℞. Pulv. rad. jalap. gr. viij. ad gr. xij.
——ſal. nitr. gr. x.
Aq. com. ʒiſs. ſyr. ſimp. q. s. M. f. hauſtus.

No. 29. ℞. Elect. lenitiv. ʒij.
Lac ſulph. ʒij.
Pulv. jalap. ʒiſs. ſyr. ſimp. q. s. M. f. elect. cujus capiat q. N. M. bis vel ter in ſeptimana.

No. 30.

No. 30. ℞. Sal. polychreſt. ʒij. ſolv. in aq. com. ℥vijſs.
Spt. nitr. dulc. ʒij. ſyr. croci q. ſ. M. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. iij. ter de die.

No. 31. ℞. Sal. polychreſt.
——nitr. aa. gr. x. M. f. pulvis, bis de die ſumendus ex cyatho aquæ puræ.

When the fluor albus is of various colors, not acrid, and the patient pale, languid, and debilitated, aloetic laxatives, or rhubarb given at proper intervals, ſtomachics, chalybeates, and preparations of bark, turpentine, and vitriol, will be proper with cold bathing.

As the *effects* of the diſeaſe, by an examination after death are perceived to have been *congeſtions* in the abdominal viſcera, ariſing from obſtruction, nothing can be more rational than to preſcribe mercurials, antimonials, or chalybeates, in ſmall doſes, as the moſt certain deobſtruents and averters of thoſe effects.

Aloetica purgantia cum calomel ad gr. ſs. alterna quaque nocte.

Terebenthina e Chio
——————e Cypro
——————Veneta
} ad ℈iſs.

Tonica & aſtringentia omnia. See Immoderate Flow of Menſes.

Tinctura Guaiacina ſimp. ad ʒiſs.
——————— vol. ad ʒj.
Balſamum Copaiba ad gtt. xi.
——————Canadenſe ad gtt. xxxx.
——————Peruvianum ad gtt. xxxvj.
——————Traumaticum ad gtt. xxxx.

Spt. terebenth. æther. ad gtt. xij. ex cyatho aquæ puræ, vel vini aquâ diluti, bis vel ter de die.

FORMULÆ.

No. 32. ℞. Terebenth. e Chio ʒij.
Extract. rhubarb. ʒſs.
Colcoth. vitriol. ℈j. ſyr. balſam. q. s. M. f. pilulæ mediocres; capiat ij. vel iij. mane & nocte.

No. 33. ℞. Gum. oliban. ʒſs.
Sacchar. alb. ʒj. tere ſimul; dein add.
Tinct. cort. Peruv. ʒj.
Aq. cinnam. ten. ʒiſs. M. f. hauſtus bis vel ter de die ſumendus.

No. 34. ℞. Extract. gentian.
——————cort. Peruv. aa. ʒj. M. f. pilulæ No. xxi. capiat ij. ter de die ſuperbibendo coch. iij. miſturæ ſequentis.

No. 35. ℞. Infus. amar. ʒvijſs.
Tinct. valerian ʒvj.
Elix. vitriol. dulc. ʒij. M. f. miſtura.

No. 36. ℞. Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒiſs.
Balſ. Copiav. ʒſs. ſyr. balſam. q. s. M. f. elect. cujus capiat q. N. M. bis de die ſuperbibendo hauſt. ſequent.

No. 37. ℞. Vin. chalybeat. ʒj.
Infus. amar. ʒiſs. M. f. hauſtus.

Or,

Or,

No. 38. ℞. Decoct. cort. Peruv. ʒiſs.
Elix. vitriol. acid. gtt. xv.
Tinct. ſtomach. ʒiij. horis duabus ante prandium ſumend. quotidie.

Or,

No. 39. ℞. Liquor. anodyn. min. Hoff. ʒiſs.
Tinct. ſacræ ʒſs. M. capiat. gtt. lx. bis vel ter de die ex cyatho infuſi flor. chamœmel.

Fumes of tacamahac, maſtich, amber, gum benzoin, and thus are uſeful, applied to the uterus, or rather vagina.

If the diſcharge be acrimonious, ſo as to irritate, or excoriate the vagina, the cure will be beſt effected; evacuations being premiſed.

1. By changing the whole maſs of depraved humors to a milder ſtate, chiefly by alteratives from the mineral kingdom; and afterwards, if neceſſary,

2. By ſtomachics, cortex Peruvianus, bitters, and chalybeates, the cold bath, &c.

REMEDIA.

Pulvis mineral. purif. fort. ad ℈j. ter de die.
Mercurius ſaccharat. (Edinb. ph.) ad gr. ij.
Æthiops mineralis ad ℈j.
Cinnabar factitium ad ℈j. bis de die.
Merc. dulc. ſexies ſub. gr. $\frac{1}{8}$ ad gr. ſs. omni nocte.
Pil. mercuriales ad g. ij. bis in die.

FORMULÆ.

No. 40. ℞. Pulv. miner. purif. fort. gr. xxv. vel ʒſs.
Aq. puræ ʒiiſs.
Mucilag. gum. Arab. ʒiiſs. M. f. hauſt. bis vel ter de die ſumend.

Or.

No. 41. ℞. Cinnab. fact.
Pulv. rhab. aā ʒj. ſyr. balſam. q. s. M. f. pilulæ No. xxx. capiat ij. bis de die.

Or,

No. 42. ℞. Merc. ſacchar. Pharm. Edinb. ℈j.
Conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. M. f. pilulæ No. x. capiat unam alternis noctibus.

No. 43. ℞. Cinnab. fact. ʒj.
Camphor. pulv. ʒſs. ſyr. balſam. q. M. f. pilulæ No. xxx. capiat ij. bis vel ter de die.

No. 44. ℞. Merc. dulc. ſex. ſub. ppt. gr. v.
Conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. M. f. pilulæ No. xv. capiat unam bis vel ter in ſeptimana.

No. 45. ℞. Pulv. mineral. purif. mit.
——e tragacanth. c. aa. ʒiij. M. dividendus in xx. doſes, capiat unam ter de die ex cyatho aquæ puræ.

During the adminiſtration of theſe alteratives, all acids and ſalt diet ſhould be avoided.

After evacuants, injections of aqua vegeto mineralis, or weak ſolutions of vitriol alb. may be uſed; but never until the cauſes are removed.

Theſe

Theſe are the means by which the cure of the *fluor albus*, ariſing from different cauſes, may be attained.

In the firſt, the cure ſeems to be effected by diminiſhing the ſuperabundance of the fluids.

In the ſecond, by reſtoring the tone of the ſtomach and inteſtines; by which a more nutritious chyle is ſeparated and received; on which all good health depends.

The third, by directing powerful remedies in ſmall doſes to the minute ſyſtem, ſo as never to diſturb or ſtimulate the conſtitution; by opening all the glandular ſecretions and execretions, and by diminiſhing the load of morbific fluids, the moſt ſalutary effects are experienced.

There is, however, a fourth means of cure, without which all the others may fail; tranquillity of mind, clear pure air, moderate exerciſe, and a judicious diet.

Admonitions and Practical Obſervations.

The ſuddenly checking the diſcharge by aſtringents, internally or externally applied, eſpecially before proper evacuations, and

other cauſe-removing remedies*, may prove very injurious to the conſtitution. What ſhould be evacuated may be abſorbed by the lymphatic ſyſtem, and produce ſlow nervous fevers, hectic and conſumptive complaints; calamitous, cachetic, and chronic diſeaſes; ſcirrhus and cancerous ulcers of the uterus. It is, therefore, much ſafer to wait patiently for a cure being effected by the gradual and almoſt imperceptible changes produced in the whole conſtitution; this may frequently depend on well-planned diet and alterative medicine.

Before any means of cure are adopted, the quantity and quality of the diſcharge ſhould be aſcertained by viewing the linen. To a ſkilful and experienced phyſician, this will not only indicate what remedies will be moſt eligible, but accurate prognoſtics may be formed of the eaſe or difficulties to be encountered in the cure, and likewiſe the ſtate of the patient's habit. In proportion as the evacua-

* This word I ſhould imagine may be aptly applied to medical writings. Cures are either palliative or radical: what removes cauſes may, therefore, be called cauſe-removing remedies, in contradiſtinction to palliatives.

evacuation is copious, ſerous, and acrimonious, ſo will its removal require a longer or ſhorter ſpace of time.

Large doſes of powerful mercurials, draſtic purges, and even cantharides,* and preparations

* The deſtructive effects of cantharides, preparations of lead, and other poiſons, may be collected from the following obſervations of the truly-great Hoffman.

F. Hoff. lib. ii—De hyoſcyamo, memorabilis eſt locus in Scribon. Largo, c. 181. dum ait: hyoſcyamum qui biberunt caput grave veniſque diſtentum habent, mente abalienantur cum verborum altercatione, unde etiam nomen herba trahit altercum: poſtea ſopiuntur & omni ſenſu carent, liveſcentibus membris eorum.

Similar effects are produced by a decoction of the roots of hemlock. Mathiolus in comment. Dioſcorid. lib. vi. cap. 11. Many examples may be ſeen in Wepfer.

Quæ veneni vim ac naturam æmulantur medicamenta, in eorum numero ſunt emetica & purgantia draſtica ſive vehementiora; ſunt etiam ſtupefactiva quædam ex mercurio male præparata.

Ex emeticis multum vehementiæ & virulentæ qualitatis habent ſtibiata, præſertim in ſubſtantia data, ut antimonii vitrum, mercurius vitæ, crocus metallorum, ſulphur auratum, &c.

De venenis ſoporificis papaver, opium, ad ſtupefactiva vero, quæ valentioris ſunt virtutis, omnia ex mandragora, hyoſcyamo, ſolano, ſtramonio, datura, pertinent.

De ceteris medicamentis virulentam naturam referentibus.

Cantharides, nux vomica, & medicamenta ex metallis, auro, venere & ſaturno parata, quorum non adeo tutus uſus eſt.

Ex

rations of lead, are recommended internally by ſome authors. Such medicines ſhould be avoided in moſt caſes, particularly to delicate females, as they may prove deſtructive.

The diſorder is ſlow in its advances, ſeldom *urgent or ſerious* in its conſequences,

Ex omnibus, quæ inimica naturæ ſunt, nullum eſt, quod tam valide & tam graviter inteſtina earumque tonum deſtruat, quam *ſaturnina quædam.*——Repetita ſi fuerit etiam minor doſis, lenta morte homines tollunt.——Quod Galli la poudre de ſucceſſion vocant, ſaturniæ eſſe proſapiæ conſtat.

From lead in wines.

Plura de hiſce legi poſſunt in Miſcellan. Nat. Curios. dec. iii. anno iv. ob. 30. 92. & 100. item dec. i. anno iii. 131. & in Hoffman. in diſſertatione de metallurgia morbifica.

Scribonius Largus, 184. p. 101. Dioſcorides Anazarbæus, lib. 6. cap. 27. Cæſalpinus, lib. iii. cap. 24.

Borellus cent. iv. ob. 32—Obſervatione digna memoriæ reliquit; habui amicum, qui *ſacchari ſaturni nimiam* hauſit *quantitatem*, ut tamquam paralyticus & fere mortuus factus ſit; rigebant membra ejus, tamquam congelatus & apoplecticus erat.

I myſelf was witneſs of a perſon being deſtroyed by only taking ten drops of Goulard's extract diluted in water, to the ſtrength of the *vegeto-mineral water.*

The inſtance of Mr. Hankey was a very extraordinary eſcape; this gentleman drank a glaſs full of the *extract of lead;* I was immediately ſent for, and by a very ſucceſsful management ſaved his life. See this extraordinary caſe, and its mode of treatment, in my other work on poiſons, &c.

and

and therefore does not require very *deſperate remedies*.

Previous to preſcribing the mineral alteratives, a ſmall bleeding may be neceſſary, eſpecially if the patient be young, and the diſeaſe accompanied with a turgency of the veſſels: the quantity, however, extracted, ſhould not exceed above four or ſix ounces; and this will be improper, if the legs ſhould be œdematous.

When the diſorder has been of long continuance, either from neglect, or injudicious treatment, a great relaxation of the whole ſyſtem is the conſequence; in which inſtances, the Bath waters, and others of the chalybeate claſs, have been uſed with extraordinary ſucceſs.

After the diſorder is cured, there often remains a great relaxation of the ſeminary veſſels and glandular ſyſtem, productive of an ejection of gelatinous lymph upon any ſlight emotions of the mind, or bodily efforts: theſe ſymptoms are beſt removed by the cold bath, bark, and vitriolic preparations, and a lotion of the *vegeto-mineral* water uſed as an injection.

In

In every caſe, the original cauſes of the diſeaſe ſhould be accurately inveſtigated, and ſkilfully removed.

Particular attention is required, leſt the ulcer of the womb or bladder, or the gonorrhœa, be miſtaken for this diſorder.

The firſt is accompanied with pains ſimilar to labor; a very fœtid diſcharge; and a ſcirrhus of the *os uteri*; ulcers, or fiſſures.

The ſecond may be known by difficulty of urine, acute pains at the neck of the bladder, immediately under the pubis, and by purulent pus in the urine.

The third is diſcoverable by the *ardor urinæ*, inflammation of the clitoris, and acrimony of the diſcharge iſſuing from the female urethra, or lacunar glands, &c.

The fluor albus is generally without pain, though, if very acrid, it may produce ſmarting, and excoriation of the parts.

On the Treatment of thoſe FEMALE COMPLAINTS, *that ariſe from the age of Thirty-ſix, to the End of Life.*

It is of great conſequence to females to attend carefully to all the complaints that

that ariſe at, or after the ceſſation of the menſes.

At this time, if they be not judiciouſly treated, in many inſtances, diſorders, and ſome of a very ſerious nature, may be entailed on them for the remainder of their lives.

Chronic pains of the head, difficulty of breathing, fullneſs, flatulency, ſwellings, cancers of the breaſt or womb, dreadful to ſuffer, and fatal in their conſequences; ſcirrhus of the ovaria, not ſo dangerous as troubleſome; dropſies, ſwelled legs; ulcers of the legs, ſwelled veins or varices; fluſhings, heats in the hands and feet, fevers of the hectic or nervous claſs, coſtiveneſs, purgings; floodings, bleeding at the noſe, from the lungs, hæmorrhoidal veins; coughs, aſthma, rheumatiſm, and even gout, &c.

The management of females at this period may be gathered from many obſervations diſperſed in different parts of this work, to which the reader is referred. It is only intended, in this part, to ſpeak in general on the ſubject.

On the Treatment of the Corpulent and Florid.

In many inſtances, bleeding is uſeful once every two or three months.

Purging with tinctura ſacra, cremor tartari, and infuſion of ſenna, once a week, or with cooler purgatives, if neceſſary: but it muſt be obſerved, that a medium is to be practiſed; for over-evacuations would change the ſtate of the blood ſo as to produce a dropſy.

A more abſtemious diet than uſual will anſwer every purpoſe; but a very low diet would be prejudicial. Air and exerciſe are uſeful.

Vegetables, as they are apt to create wind, and inflate the ſtomach, ſhould be uſed ſparingly, or avoided.

On the Treatment of the Corpulent, and thoſe who are inclining to be Pallid.

At the ceſſation of the menſes in ſuch conſtitutions, a dropſy, or œdematous ſwelling in the legs, that pit, are to be expected.

Difficulty

Difficulty of breathing, coughs, weakneſs of the moving powers, and univerſal relaxation, are among the attendant evils.

Bleeding in ſuch caſes would prove, if *repeated, fatal.* The body requires evacuating by aloetics and calomel occaſionally; and between theſe evacuations, a dry diet ſhould be inſtituted, and chalybeates, or other tonics, exhibited. Animal food, with little or no vegetable, is proper.

Iſſues in the legs, if at all uſeful, are in theſe caſes to be recommended.

On the Treatment of the Slender and Florid.

Theſe often require bleeding occaſionally, cooling ſaline laxatives, calcined magneſia, to remove acidity and flatulency, and ſometimes warm bathing to open the pores, if the ſkin be dry; or foot baths compoſed of nitre and warm water.

On the Treatment of the Slender in Body, and Pallid.

Theſe commonly labour under diſeaſed viſcera. Calomel in very ſmall doſes,* with ſoap

* A quarter of a grain to three grains of Pilula Rufi, every other night, to which may be added, from five to ten grains of ſapo amygdal.

ſoap and *Pilula Rufi*, are proper chalybeates; bitters and mineral alteratives are all, if judiciouſly preſcribed, uſeful: but chalybeates are improper in coughs or difficulty of breathing.

On the Treatment of the very Nervous and Irritable.

Whether theſe be inclinable to corpulency, or are ſlender in their perſons; it ſhould be firſt conſidered, if anxiety of mind has increaſed natural ſuſceptibility, or whether irritability be natural, independent of accidental cauſes.

Thoſe who, through life, have been ſubject to exquiſite ſenſibility; or thoſe who make the whole world's misfortunes their own, are with greater difficulty managed, than thoſe, where ſome accidental and temporary accident has been productive of nervous unhappy ſenſations.

Both are to be treated with ſoothing humanity; their friends ſhould participate in their diſtreſſes, imaginary, as they are called, or real: but in the future part of this work ſo much is delivered on theſe ſubjects, that

their conſideration, in this place, will be leſs neceſſary.

The general treatment is to allay irritation by appeaſing nervous remedies, and to ſtrengthen the relaxed habit by tonics, air, and exerciſe.

On the Treatment of the Languid, and thoſe inclinable to Torpidity.

Theſe feel little, therefore complain little. Inſenſibility, from a bad ſtate of the blood, renders ſuch leſs apparently diſeaſed, than the foregoing.

This ſtate of body and mind can ſometimes be changed, and the moſt reſerved and ſullen rendered more open and ſuſceptible, by cathartics, alteratives, and ſtimulants; in ſhort, by changing the ſtate of the blood.

All the other diſorders conſequent to the period now treated on, are to be found in the different parts of this treatiſe, and their treatment both as to diet and medicines.

A

TREATISE

ON THE

MANAGEMENT OF FEMALE BREASTS,

DURING CHILD-BED;

AND SEVERAL

NEW OBSERVATIONS ON CANCEROUS DISEAESES,

WITH PRESCRIPTIONS.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

RAMARKS ON PRETENDERS TO THE CURE OF

THE CANCER.

PREFACE.

THE firſt edition of this little performance was publiſhed about ſeventeen or eighteen years ago, when I was in the full practice of ſurgery and midwifery; which branches an impaired health obliged me to relinquiſh: but the opportunities of obſerving the diſeaſes here treated at that period, and much ſubſequent experience, convinces me of the neceſſity of phyſicians well comprehending the ſeparate branches of medicine, if they wiſh to be uſeful in the variety of caſes in which they may be conſulted.

In this edition are omitted ſome reflections on the practice of midwifery, which

may be more properly communicated in another work: but the cancerous complaints are conſidered more anatomically and phyſiologically; the probability or improbability of cure in various ſtages, with the reaſons drawn, from a long and reiterated experience, are more exactly aſcertained. If the doctrines here communicated can in any manner alleviate the miſeries of the afflicted, or induce other practitioners to improve the treatment of theſe difficult and dreadful complaints, and wreſt from the hands of impoſture the credulous victims to empiriciſm, it will be a great pleaſure to the Author.

The reſult of various diſſections, and anatomical injections, made by the author, to more accurately aſcertain the cauſes and ſtages of cancerous complaints, is introduced in this edition.

A

TREATISE

ON THE

DISEASES OF FEMALE BREASTS,

&c. &c.

On the Treatment of the milky Breaſt, during Childbed.

THE treatment of the breaſts during childbed, may be reduced to a few principles.

1. The acceſſion of milk being ſooner in ſome women than others, if the mother ſuckle her infant, it is neceſſary to apply the child's mouth to the nipple on the firſt day after delivery, and not wait, as many inexperienced, or prejudiced practitioners, have recommended, until the third day; for ſuch conduct has produced inflammations, impoſthumes,

thumes, or gatherings of matter, hardneſſes, and conſequent ſcirrhus and cancer.

2. If the mother ſhould not ſuckle the child, the breaſts ſhould be firſt emptied, and the determination of a freſh flow of blood to the breaſts prevented. The firſt is effected by cooling and gentle evacuations, as *lac ſulphuris* and *magneſia*, *infuſum ſennæ* and *tartarum ſolubile*, *magneſia* and *rhubarb*, *manna*, &c., with great abſtinence from all liquids, eſpecially ſuch as caudle, or any thing ſtimulant.

3. A gentle perſpiration may be likewiſe excited by volatile, ſaline, neutraliſed remedies; *ſpiritus Mindereri*, *miſtura camphorata*, &c. *Spiritus nitri dulcis* is a proper diuretic for the ſame purpoſe. The diet likewiſe ſhould be antiphlogiſtic, unleſs contra-indicated by ſome particular circumſtance; and the breaſts may be rubbed with *oleum camphoratum*, or ſolutions of camphor made with blanched almonds, and *ſpiritus Mindereri*, &c., three or four times a day.

Theſe methods, if early and judiciouſly applied, will avert all ill conſequences to the breaſt during childbed.

The fluids being diminiſhed, heat and irritability being prevented, and the blood intended for the ſecretion of milk being diverted into other channels, all pain, inflammation, and indurations, are prevented.

On the Treatment of inflamed Breaſts during lying-in.

If the foregoing methods be neglected, or a freedom of diet be indulged, the breaſts often inflame, ſwell, and occaſion exquiſite pain.

The firſt mode of curing the inflammation is, by reſolution, or diſſipating the inflammation before any matter forms: this is beſt effected by bleeding, according to the exigency of the caſe, and ſtrength of the patient.

The internal and external remedies ſhould be ſimilar; but in ſome caſes more powerful, than thoſe recommended in the treatment of the breaſts, when the mother does not ſuckle the infant; to which may be joined emollient and diſcuſſing fomentations, &c.

On

On the Management of the Breaſts, if Matter collect and form Abſceſſes.

If the foregoing methods ſhould be applied too late, or they ſhould prove ineffectual, and matter collect, much will depend on its being deeply or ſuperficially ſeated: in the former the abſceſs will be longer in arriving to ſuppuration; in the latter, a ſhorter period accompliſhes this deſirable end. The pains, therefore, which are very acute, will be of longer or ſhorter duration; cold ſhiverings will be frequently felt; the ſwelling and pain increaſes, and redneſs will often indicate on what part the abſceſs will form.

To encourage this end, all reſolvents are avoided; and ſuppurating poultices ſhould be applied, of bread and milk and hog's lard, or of *farina ſeminum lini*, with any oleaginous or unctuous ſubſtances, to ſoften and relax the ſkin, to admit diſtenſion with leſs pain, and promote ſuppuration.

As the abſceſs points outwardly, and the ſurface becomes thin, it is neceſſary ſometimes to make a puncture, which never occaſions

ſions the pain of bleeding; or it may be opened, in timid patients, by the application of the concentrated nitrous acid, or ſuffered to break, unleſs the patient ſhould be much exhauſted by reiterated pain, inflammation, and ſymptomatic fever.

The treatment of the wound requires ſome ſkill; for if it be ſuffered to heal too ſoon, it will leave hardneſs: to prevent this, I have uſed occaſionally a ſmall ſponge tent dipped in any mild unguent; by this means the wound may be kept open until all the hardneſs be reſolved; then the wound may be ſuffered ſafely to heal.

If the hardneſs be left, it may hereafter produce the ſcirrhus or cancerous tumor, or ulcer; but this circumſtance has been little regarded until the unfortunate victim, owing to former neglect, labors under the cancer, and then it is ſometimes too late for either medicine or ſurgery to prove beneficial.

The reſolution of the hardneſs will likewiſe be aſſiſted by the reſolvents already mentiontioned, and mineral light alteratives given in the new-invented manner, ſo as never to excite irritation in the habit; a clear explanation

tion of which will be found in the ſubſequent pages.

On Indurations, cancerous Tumors, &c.

The ſubjects now to be treated, it would have been thought, were exhauſted, if credit could be given to the numerous writers that have pretended to cure the cancer, or who have declared the diſorder always incurable.

Quacks and impoſtors never heſitate to boldly aſſert their certainty of curing theſe diſorders; and they gain credit, however ignorant, by the boldneſs with which their promiſes and falſehoods are generally expreſſed.

Surgeons in general are vehement againſt the fallacious promiſes of impoſtors and empirics, and they have a notion that no cure can be effected in any cancerous complaint: they know, perhaps, of no method of cure, and conclude that what is beyond their comprehenſion or knowledge, muſt neceſſarily be beyond the bounds of human ſcience. This concluſion is certainly irrational in many diſeaſes, although in the cancer it is too frequently

quently verified. Diſcoveries are continually making; and were all mankind to reſt idle and ſatisfied with the knowledge of their anceſtors, no improvements could be of any utility. It is the duty of medical practitioners to hear patiently every propoſal for improving the art; to reaſon and judge candidly, and make repeated trials of whatever may be concluded ſafe. Theſe are the only means of aſcertaining the comparative merits of different modes of treatment, and the only means by which the mind is purged of juvenile or radicated prejudices, or by which the art of phyſic can attain a greater degree of excellence.

It may be obſerved that ſurgeons are commonly too ready to uſe the knife, not only in cancerous complaints, but likewiſe in tumors of the breaſt, not cancerous; and every experienced practitioner muſt, or ſhould know, that the cutting out the ſcirrhus ſeldom, very ſeldom, proves ſucceſsful. Were a number of ſuch caſes as have fallen under my own obſervation made public, they would ſtrike the mind with horror, and baniſh from the art of

ſurgery,

ſurgery, except in very particular urgent caſes, that cruel and unſucceſsful operation.

In the preſent work attempts will be made to render a clearer and diſtincter knowledge of cancerous tumors than has hitherto appeared: the art will endeavour to wreſt from impoſture or cruelty the unfortunate victims labouring under theſe dreadful diſeaſes. What is here advanced is the reſult of obſervation, anatomical inquiry, and repeated reflection. I hope other regular practitioners will examine the diſorder ſeriouſly, and aſſiſt in improving the treatment of theſe truly deplorable diſeaſes.

In all new attempts to remove complaints, ever conſidered difficult or impoſſible to cure, a great latitude for ill-ſucceſs ſhould be allowed. There are many glandular tumors abſolutely *incurable* from their firſt appearance; there are others extremely *doubtful* of cure; and all are *difficult* and tedious. If mankind expect more than the art of medicine can accompliſh, which is very natural from the feelings of humanity, and an unacquaintance of the difficulties under which the art labours, it is the duty of a candid ſurgeon to apprize the friends

friends candidly of the diſtant or immediate danger; to attempt much, but promiſe little; and ſociety ſhould reſt ſatisfied with an honeſt exertion of our abilities, directed by the regular principles of the art, whether ſucceſsful or unſucceſsful.

The general internal mode of treating an obſtinate ſcirrhus, or the induration of the breaſts after lying-in, is contained in the following formulæ:*

Sanguis mittendus plus minuſve.

No. 1. ℞. Infuſ. ſen. ℥iſs.
Tart. ſol. ℥ij. f. hauſtus mane ſequenti ſumendus.

No. 2. ℞. Pulv. pro pilul. Plummer. ℈j. vel ℥ſs. conf. Damocrat. q. s.
f. ℘ilulæ No. xx. quarum capiat unam ter de die ſuperbibendo coch. ij. miſturæ ſequentis †.

No. 3. R. Antimon. tartariſat. gr. ſs. vel gr. j. ſolve in julep. e camph. ℥viij.
Deinde adde ſal. nitr. vel prunel. ℥j. vel ℥ij. fiat miſtura.

An abſtemious diet is neceſſary.

Emollient

* The preſcriptions in this treatiſe will retain their original numbers.

† The trituration with the *ſulph. antim. præcip.* ſhould be continued at leaſt twenty-four hours; by which the powder becomes ſtrictly a mineral alterative, and in ſmall doſes never diſturbs either ſtomach or inteſtines, eſpecially if the calomel be ten times ſublimed or waſhed.

Emollient and reſolvent fomentations may be likewiſe uſeful.

Dr. James's powder, in ſmall doſes, has been beneficial in removing recent indurations of the breaſts, when joined with neutraliſed ſalts.

Of the Indurations of the Breaſts, which happen from various Cauſes.

It would be difficult to determine many remote cauſes of theſe tumors; ſome are imagined to ariſe from a blow, others from a peculiarity in the conſtitution; but whatever may be the origin, the cure in general is the ſame. I have ſeen inſtances of ſmall indurarations in the breaſts, very hard and looſe, in young people, reſiſt every internal medicine adminiſtered. What is the conſequence of ſuch caſes I have had many opportunities to fully inform myſelf, and am quite convinced that all operations are cruel or unneceſſary, and frequently unfortunate. In other inſtances the cure is eaſily performed by the remedies recommended in the cure of the hardneſs. Surgeons in general have been often too raſh in cutting for the ſcirrhus of the breaſts. This complaint ought to be left quiet, if internal remedies

remedies ſhould not ſucceed, unleſs attended with exquiſite pain. From obſervation I have reaſon to conclude, that conſiderable miſchief has been done both by the knife and cauſtic, agreeably to the writings of the moſt eminent ſurgeons and phyſicians, ancient and modern. Experience proves, that cancerous complaints of the breaſts, womb, mouth, noſe, and other parts, have been ſometimes cured by the following modes*. It is candid to acknowledge, however, that *failures* have frequently attended my *attempts;* in all which caſes the patients have been relieved in certain degrees; and it is ſome comfort to alleviate human miſery, or procraſtinate evils, when radical cures cannot be reaſonably expected. It is more reaſonable to reſt ſatisfied with known evils, than to riſk life in an attempt to cure by a cruel, and too often a ſucceſsleſs operation, which generally ſhortens life.

In the following part are contained all the methods uſed for theſe purpoſes, with *formulæ*

* Some caſes have been cured by cinnabarine fumigation, and what we call our *Pilulæ fortiſſimæ*, at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

læ of preſcriptions, which in many caſes of recent cancers have ſucceeded.

Of Indurations of the Breaſts, commonly called the Scirrhus or occult Cancer, &c.

Theſe indurations are various in their ſize, ſituation, and effects, and are known by hardneſs and inequality of ſwelling: ſometimes, but not always, the external veins are varicous; therefore the common definition given by authors is not accurate in the occult nor even ulcerous cancer.

Theſe tumors may be divided into the indolent and malignant.

The ſcirrhoſities make their appearance between the age of *thirty-ſix and fifty*, about the *time*, or after the *ceſſation of the menſes*, and are commonly attended with ſerious conſequences; for the tumor without pain degenerates into the painful or malignant, and the painful or malignant into the open ulcerated cancer. Various anatomical and pathological experiments, made formerly, prove three internal ſpecies of the ſcirrhus; the external are various.

The

The firſt and mildeſt ſpecies are *varices*, or dilatations of the minute ſanguiferous veins.

The ſecond are varices of the minute veins, joined with a diſtenſion of the ſmall *lymphatic* abſorbing veſſels of the breaſt.

This ſpecies is harder than the firſt, and, being connected with the lymphatic ſyſtem, ſometimes tumors appear near the axilla, which, by preſſing on the returning veins, produce œdematous ſwellings of the arm.

The third is not only a diſtenſion of all the veſſels, but likewiſe a dilatation of the cells of the *tela celluloſa*, a coagulation of coagulable lymph in the lymphatics, and hardneſs of the fat in its cells. The *tubuli lactiferi* are pervious, and become obliterated.

This third ſpecies being complicated of all the former, manifeſts a *ſtony* hardneſs, often accompanied with ſharp excruciating pain: this has been called a true *occult cancer*.

When this third ſpecies degenerates into an ulcer, often very painful, fœtid, and fungous, it may be denominated the *perfect* cancer, or cancerous corroding ulcer, which ſometimes

deſtroys the adjacent parts, and too commonly proves *fatal*.

In congeſtions or indurations, the more aërial and volatile particles of the blood fly off, through increaſed action, heat, and the weakneſs of the vaſcular coats, and the more denſe parts of coagulable lymph are left behind, either in minute veſſels or cellulous cavities of the *tela celluloſa:* hence congeſtion often ſucceeds congeſtion; accumulation, accumulation; which becoming in time rancid or acrid, ulcerations ſucceed. Fat becomes ſooner rancid than any other part.

PROGNOSTIC.

The firſt ſpecies, when recent, is generally curable by bleeding, antiphlogiſtics, *metallic alteratives*, extreme abſtinence from fluids, and a proper diet.

The ſecond ſpecies is more difficult of cure, and requires a *long perſeverance* in the uſe of penetrating, aperient metallic remedies; to give an additional force to the diſeaſed veſſels; to reſolve the viſcid impacted matter, or change its quality, and prepare it for abſorption, and thus

thus gradually reduce the tumour by the expulsion or mutation of the causes.

The third species is generally *incurable*; and, after unsuccessfully attempting relief by similar modes to the preceding, there only remains the *palliative* method of managing the cancer, which may preserve the patient's life many years. These various plans of treatment shall follow in order.

Treatment of the first Species.

1. In plethoric patients, bleeding is repeatedly necessary to evacuate the contents of the distended vessels.

2. Evacuating the vessels will not be useful unless they continue in a state of emptiness; for which purpose laxatives adapted to the constitution are proper; those of the saline kind in inflammatory habits; but, in the relaxed and debilitated, aloetics should be prescribed in small doses, rhubarb, or manna, &c.

Mittatur sanguis e brachio ad ʒviij. vel ʒxij.

No. 4. ℞ Infus. sen. ʒij.

Tart. solub. ʒij. syr. simp. q. s. m. f. haustus, bis, vel ter in septimana sumendus.

Or any other accuſtomed laxative may be preſcribed.

The external pores are to be opened by antimonials; to evacuate, likewiſe, the fluids, and diſlodge the impacted matter, the following is proper:

No. 5. ℞. Antimon. tartariſat. gr. ij. ſolve in aq. pur. ℥ij. deinde adde
Sal. nitr. ℥ij. m. capiat gtt. xx. vel. xxxx. ter vel quater de die ex coch. ij. julep. e camphor, vel decocti nitroſi.

Externally, the camphorated oil may be applied, or the vegeto-mineral water warm, fomentations diſcuſſing and emollient, with cataplaſms of *farin. ſeminum lini*, &c.

To thoſe who cannot bear much perſpiration,

No. 6. ℞. Cal. ppt. x. vel merc. dulc. 6ies ſub. lot.
Sulph. aurat. antimon. ℈iſs. m. accurate, deinde adde conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxx. capiat unam ter de die, ſuperbibendo coch. iij. miſturæ ſequentis:
No. 7. ℞. Julep. e camph. aq. pur. aa ℥iv.
Sal. nitr. ℥j. m.

The common drink, during the whole cure, ſhould be one drachm of ſal prunella,

or nitre, diſſolved in a quart of barley water or elderflower water.

The diet ſhould be innocent, and rather abſtemious; all acids ſhould be avoided during the adminiſtration of the preſcibed remedies, and theſe ſhould be continued many months, varying the preſcription, or doſes of the medicines, as circumſtances occur, or no relief, much leſs any cure, need be expected.

Some of theſe caſes, when mild, have been cured by the following electuary, drinking after each doſe a cupful of a liquid compoſed of half an ounce of powdered nitre in a quart of water; to which has been added, and diſſolved, two or three grains of *antimon. tartariſat.*

No. 8. ℞. Æthiops min. ʒj.
Conſ. cynoſbat. ʒij.
Pulv. camphor. ʒij.
Syr. balſam. q. s. f. electuarium, cujus capiat Q. N. M. ter de die.

If the patient ſhould be of a coſtive habit, lenitive electuary may be uſed inſtead of the conſerve of hips; or, in pale habits, any bitter purging

purging pill may be given, joined with the calx antimon. illot.

Cinnabarine preparations, Æthiop's antimonialis, neutral ſalts, ſal ſodæ, &c., according to circumſtances, ſhould be preſcribed.

During the adminiſtration of theſe remedies, cold ſhould be avoided, and the breaſts ſhould be covered with a hare's ſkin dreſſed, or flannel: the ſame rules likewiſe are proper in all the ſubſequent methods of cure.

Mercurials uſed *externally*, as ointments, or *inwardly* taken, *uncombined* with antimonial or ſulphureous preparations, have done inexpreſſible miſchief in this and the other ſtages of the ſcirrhus and cancerous diſeaſes. *Mercury alone aggravates all the ſymptoms of the cancer.*

Similar modes to thoſe recommended ſucceed in the indurated breaſts, which happen during lying in, and they may be ſafely preſcribed, even if the mother ſuckle her infant: this abundance of experience has amply proved.

The *ſecond ſpecies* of induration, where the *veins* and *lymphatic veſſels* are both affected, a like

like mode of cure is required; but a ſtricter regimen ſhould be preſcribed, and the remedies ſhould be given in larger doſes, but never ſo as to raiſe any painful irritation either in the ſtomach or the general habit. It is the peculiar merit of the preſent plan, that ſmall doſes of theſe important remedies never diſagree with the moſt delicate conſtitution, if *well prepared*; but on this depends their *ſucceſs*.

In the ſecond ſtage of the diſorder likewiſe, cinnabar, or Æthiop's mineral, have been preſcribed with purified nitre, rubbed together very fine, and found uſeful.

Theſe powders are to be taken three or four times in the day to ʒſs. in two table ſpoonfuls of camphorated julep, and before each doſe a Plummer's pill, beginning with half a grain, and gradually increaſing the doſe to two grains, according to the conſtitution of the patient, and the peculiar circumſtances of the caſe.

In the third ſtage, where the *veins*, *lymphatics*, and *cells of the adipoſe ſubſtance* and *tubuli lactiferi*, are probably filled with a coagulated matter, and become all together one confuſed maſs,

maſs, little ſucceſs may be expected, yet it requires a ſimilar mode of treatment; for though no cure may be performed, the increaſe of the diſorder, which might be rapid, is frequently for years retarded.

A more powerful plan may likewiſe be attempted, which, though ſeldom, has ſometimes proved ſucceſsful.

Inſtead of the pills, in addition to all the former methods, the following preparation may be adminiſtered, if there appear no material objection in the patient's conſtitution, or in the tone of the ſtomach, to forbid its uſe; though the ſmall doſes of the *hydrargyrus muriatus*, joined with *antimon. tartariſat.*, rarely diſagrees with any patient, being from the thirty-ſecond to the eighth part of a grain.

No. 9. ℞. Antimon. tartariſat. gr. ij.
Hydrarg. muriat. gr. j. ſolve in
Julep. e camphor. ℥xvj. deinde adde
Sal. nitr. ʒij. capiat ℥ſs. vel coch. j. vel ij. ter de die, ex coch. iiij. decocti ſequentis.

No. 10. ℞. Rad. ſarſaparil. inciſ. ʒij. coque in aq. pur. ℔iſs. ad libram unam & cola.

The

The ſolution ſhould be meaſured in a wooden ſpoon, which ſhould contain exactly half an ounce, or in a glaſs meaſure.

The diet and nitrous drink, as before preſcribed, will likewiſe be uſeful.

It may be obſerved, that all the preceding modes of treatment are intended to attempt the removal of the cauſes of cancers; by exciting an action in the coats of the veſſels, to reſolve, change, or expel the impacted matter: therefore *opiates*, *hemlock*, or ſuch *narcotics*, will be highly improper, as they would defeat the ſalutary attempts by diminiſhing the moving powers, and they appear highly contradictory to any intention of cure.

The *ſucceeding ſtage* is the manifeſt cancer, which does not always obſerve the progreſs already deſcribed; the variations are indeſcribable: for ſometimes little dark-coloured indurated lumps appear in the ſurface of the breaſt, not larger than peaſe; in others a large ſwelling of the color of a mulberry; in others the nipple draws in, and is ſurrounded with a ſtony hardneſs; in others the whole adipoſe membrane, from the breaſt to the back, becomes hard, impeding reſpiration.

All

All theſe ſpecies are too often *incurable* from their origin. Surgeons uſe the knife; but theſe diſorders generally relapſe after a cruel operation: to many melancholy inſtances of which, too ſhocking to relate, I have been frequently witneſs; and I find this has been the obſervation of all reſpectable practitioners, ancient or modern.

Whether, if patients were to purſue the modes already recommended, early in conjunction with the operation, time and a *candid* trial alone can determine: for my own part, from not being able to perceive practitioners juſtified in attempting a dubious operation, where the diſorder is often rendered more violent, I muſt confeſs, from conſcientious motives, and my own private feelings, I have ſcarce ever aſſented to the operation under the laſt-mentioned circumſtances, or indeed in any of the foregoing ſtages.

Various projects, many of which are highly ſuperſtitious and ridiculous, and others barbarous, at different periods have been ſuggeſted, and practiſed to cure the occult cancer: a dying man's hand, the application of a toad, a piece of undreſſed *veal*, *ſpittle*, plaiſters, a *corn*,

or

or callous ſubſtance from the leg of a horſe, *urine* of a child fed on goat's milk, juice of *clivers*, poultice of *potatoes*, *vervain* hung about the neck; innumerable abſurdities of *charms*, *amulets*, and ſtrange *exorciſms*; paſſages from *holy ſcripture* wrapped up piouſly in paper, and worn near the part affected; electricity; various cauſtics, or arſenic applied as a plaiſter, which laſt is *Plunket's* ſecret to act as a cauſtic, by corroding and deſtroying the parts indurated, under the ſpecious and more flattering denomination of a plaiſter to draw out the *core*, as it is called. I have ſeen this laſt method prove horridly painful and deſtructive. Bliſters have been applied; corroding lotions, warm liniments, and thouſands of *irrational* or *cruel* remedies. Inſignificant medicaments can do no eſſential *ſervice* in the diſeaſe; but all ſharp irritating applications *exaſperate* the ſymptoms, and always haſten death. Some preſcriptions originate in extreme folly and credulity; in raſhneſs, ignorance, or barbarity; others in the pureſt benevolent intentions, undirected by medical ſcience. The ſufferers are generally impatient, and often expect more than

the

the medical art admits, and, like a drowning man, catch at every ſtraw aſſuming the form of relief. Every ſpecies of knavery has been impoſed on cancerous patients *.

It would be difficult to determine whether officious humanity and friendſhip of relations, or the moſt artful deſign and impoſture of quacks, have done moſt injury to the afflicted labouring under cancerous complaints. The former often prevent aſſiſtance by a preſumptuous dependance on irrational chimeras; the latter deſtroy, by an infamous and unfeeling determination to purſue every ſpecies of practicable deception, through ignorance, deſign, or temerity.

On the confirmed, internal occult Cancer.

This is that ſtage of the diſeaſe in which the veſſels and cells of the *tela celluloſa* are diſtended,

* Black hellebore, ladies' bed ſtraw, privet, herb robert, burnet ſaxifrage, ſalt of ſoot outwardly riſes a vapor, fat of a crocodile, gall of ſheep, bees in powder, millepedes, cantharides boiled in oil, lapis infernalis, prepared lead, diaphoretic oil of mercury, ſweet red ſublimate, anodyne oil of arſenic as a waſh, Faber's quinteſſence of antimony, Faber's eſſence of arſenic, flower of ointments, hemlock, night-ſhade, &c.

diſtended, the fluids are partly coagulated, the glandular ſubſtance is affected, and the free circulation of the arterial ſyſtem, through the tumor, impeded, or altogether obſtructed; to which are joined *acute* pains, a diſtinct tumor, or many tumors in different parts of the breaſt, irregular in their figure and dimenſions, and often very painful on being touched; the external veins are often, but not always, varicous. Theſe ſymptoms, happening to women about the time of the total ceſſation of the menſes, may be juſtly termed of a *cancerous* tendency; for the tumors which accidentally happen in an earlier period of life, or from lying-in, are *not* of a cancerous nature, though by bad management they may become ſo frequently. This diſtinction, however, not having been properly adverted to, has given an opportunity to ignorance and impoſture to pretend they have *cured* cancerous caſes where *no cancer* exiſted. It is with concern I mention the raſhneſs of ſome ſurgeons, who have operated on tumors that were abſolutely not cancerous: ſuch practices humanity, and the honor of the medical profeſ-

ſion, ſhould diſcountenance as much as poſſible.

On the Operation for cancerous Tumors.

In the treatment of the afore-mentioned ſtage of the diſeaſe, it becomes a queſtion, whether the removal of the ſcirrhus by the knife be an eligible practice? or whether the palliative methods of cure be preferable?

There is no difficulty in deciding on theſe queſtions; when we are more guided by the laws of reaſon, humanity, and facts, than prejudices, or the erroneous authority of the art of ſurgery. After ſome years experience and conſideration on theſe important ſubjects, the following is the reſult:

No tumor of this nature ſhould be removed, unleſs *exquiſite pain* urge its neceſſity, or hæmorrhage.

If the operation in any caſe be adviſeable, which I much doubt, it ſhould be when there is only *one tumor*, or two, and theſe not only contiguous to each other, but detached from the pectoral muſcle, moveable, and where no other part of the breaſt is diſeaſed,

nor

nor ſwellings under the armpit; to determine which, with preciſion, requires no ſmall experience and diſcernment.

If the breaſt be diſeaſed in different parts, although there may be one tumor harder than the reſt, the removal of this will be abſolutely improper; for it will only occaſion a neceſſity for repeated operations, and, after variety of torment, generally deſtroys the patient; of which many ſurgeons in London are well informed.

If the tumor or tumors adhere to the pectoral muſcle, or if the lymphatic *glands in the axilla* be affected, or the arm ſwelled œdematous, the operation will not poſitively ſucceed, but increaſe the patient's torments, and prove more rapidly fatal.

In external hard *tuberculæ*, of the color of the blackberry, mulberry, or ſtrawberry, whether large and ſingle, or ſmall and numerous, the operation is doubtful. The application of the *lunar* and other *cauſtics* have produced inexpreſſible miſery, but no cure in theſe *tuberculæ*. I have, however, cured ſome of theſe caſes by the uſe of the concentrated nitrous acid,

From

From having many opportunities to determine whether the operation ſhould, in any inſtance, be performed in the true and confirmed cancer, it appears, too often, exceptionable by the laws of moral rectitude and humanity, though defenſible by the received opinions of many excellent ſurgeons. If, however, any future proofs to the contrary of this doctrine ſhould convince me that this is a prejudicial opinion, I would chearfully retract the doctrine.

The firſt conſideration in this operation ſhould be, whether it will anſwer the end propoſed, that is, the abſolute cure of the diſeaſe, or a permanent alleviation.

The amputation of the ſcirrhus breaſt is, at beſt, *doubtful*; therefore ſhould be undertaken with the greateſt caution and circumſpection: it is frequently fruitleſs.

It often produces a *rapid* augmentation of the diſeaſe, and haſtens death, with additional miſery.

If in ſome very favourable caſes it ſhould remove the diſeaſe for one, two, three, or four years, which by no means whatever can be *previouſly* aſcertained, yet in moſt inſtances

it

it produces a painful incurable ulcer, and always ends fatally.

Many are the inſtances in which the diſeaſed breaſt has been cut out, and the wound has healed; but after ſome time the ulcer has re-appeared with increaſed violence, exquiſite torture, and commonly terminated unfortunately. This I ſpeak from long experience.

On the Conſequences of the Scirrhus of the Breaſts, when unaſſiſted by medical or chirurgical Treatment.

The indurated tumors of the breaſts remain, in ſome caſes, without any augmentation of the diſeaſe, or malignant ſymptoms, for *ſeveral years*.

In ſome inſtances the diſorder becomes *rapidly* malignant, the tumor or tumors increaſe, and are attended with acute excruciating pains.

In both caſes they commonly become ulcerous; firſt an excoriation appears, iſſuing a thin acrimonious ſerum, the ulcer enlarges, the tumors throw off *ſtratum* after *ſtratum* of the diſeaſed parts, ſmelling horridly fœtid;

ſometimes very large maſſes can be eaſily ſeparated; at others, the parts are extremely putrid, without ſeparation.

Funguſſes, tubercles, and large excreſcences, ariſe ſucceſſively; for as one becomes putrid, ſeparates, and is removed, others make their appearance.

In other inſtances the diſeaſed parts gradually putrify and ſeparate, forming a large ſpreading ulcer, corroding all the adjacent parts; the ribs themſelves are often expoſed by the deſtruction of the perioſteum.

A *hectic* fever accompanies the other horrid ſymptoms, which ſeems to ariſe from a *partial abſorption* of the *cancerous acrimony*; other glandular parts are likewiſe often affected, and particularly the *lymphatic ſyſtem*. Thoſe ſurgeons, therefore, are in a moſt palpable error, who ſuppoſe that the cancer is a *mere local diſeaſe*, requiring only local applications or operations. The juices of the cancerous patients are contaminated by the cancerous acrimony: hence the neceſſity of *changing the ſtate of the blood*; hence the reaſon for applying remedies to remove glandular and lymphatic diſeaſes; hence the reaſon

reaſon why removing the diſeaſed part, *by cutting*, does not, in general, cure the cancerous diſorder *.

At laſt, after inexpreſſible miſery, of longer or ſhorter continuance, with conſtant reſpiration in the putrid exhalations iſſuing from the ſores, the patient becomes more and more debilitated; ſometimes the acute pains diminiſh, at others not, till nature, exhauſted by tortures and the cruel ravages of this ferocious diſeaſe, death cloſes the miſerable ſcene.

On the Conſequences of the Scirrhus of the Breaſts, when under the Direction of ſurgical and medical Aſſiſtance.

Enough has been ſaid of the conſequences attending *arſenical cauſtics*, or operating with the knife. If the ulcer ſhould not incarn and cicatrize after the operation, the diſorder proceeds in a manner ſimilar to the antecedent deſcription, but varying almoſt with every individual patient.

In

* Whoever wiſhes to ſee the moſt concluſive reaſonings on this ſubject, may conſult my Treatiſe on the Cure of ulcerated Legs, &c. 4th Edition.

In ſome inſtances the ulcers produced by the knife or cauſtic remain incurable, and torment for two or three years; in others, the ulcers ſpread ſuddenly, and put a final period to life in the dreadful manner already deſcribed.

Human foreſight fails in the prognoſtic of theſe diſeaſes when a cure is attempted by an operation; cures in the *real occult* cancer, I believe, are rarely or never performed by cutting: in all which inſtances the patient is ever rendered more miſerable. Even all the ancient, as well as modern writers acknowledge this, from *Hippocrates* and *Celſus* to the preſent time, and yet moſt ſurgeons have, and do operate. Why ſhould miracles be more expected now than formerly? or why ſhould ſurgery not be very circumſpect in an operation, which all its authors confeſs to have been uniformly unfortunate?

By a judicious internal and external treatment, joined with an exact regimen, according to the conſtitution of patients, and circumſtances of caſes, the progreſs of the diſeaſe is frequentiy retarded, its ravaging effects are greatly mitigated, the ulcerous ſtage, moſt

moſt to be dreaded, is at leaſt ſuſpended, and often many years prevented; and though an *abſolute* cure can ſeldom be performed, yet life may be frequently rendered leſs miſerable by an alleviation of all the ſymptoms. The utmoſt limits of medicine extend no farther in theſe unconquerable diſeaſes; the cauſes of which *anatomy*, *phyſiology*, *pathology*, and *therapeutics*, will clearly explain to thoſe well verſed in the ſcience of medicine and ſurgery.

Some general Inferences on the different Attempts to cure cancerous Diſeaſes.

The origin, ſtages, proſpects of cure, and ill-conſequences of cancerous complaints, being explained, humanity demands ſome concluſive doctrines from the foregoing premiſes.

1. A tumor or tumors in the breaſt, with or without pain, before the ceſſation of the menſtrual evacuation, are generally *not cancerous*.

2. All tumors which happen in lying-in are never cancerous, and therefore ſhould not

be extracted by the knife, or any other cruel method.

3. Extracting *indolent* or *unpainful* ſwellings of the breaſts by knife, plaiſter, or cauſtic, unleſs with a certainty of radically curing the diſeaſe, is extremely hazardous, unneceſſary, and frequently, in the end, fatal.

4. Unpainful ſwellings in the breaſt *often remain many years* without any *increaſe*, or viſible injury to patients; but no ſurgeon can previouſly determine what will be the conſequence of an operation.

5. If it could be proved that many indolent tumors have been extracted, the patients recovered, and the breaſt has ever after remained ſound; yet theſe circumſtances are by no means admitted in favor of *cutting*, becauſe thoſe complaints were not cancerous, and might perhaps have been removed by milder methods.

6. Moſt of the pretended cancers cured by cutting, on examination, have been found of the foregoing claſs; but by the apprehenſion of the patient, who commonly magnifies the misfortune, have been called, without any regard to truth, *real cancers*. Vague report

likewiſe aſſerts, that cancers have been cured by every ſpecies of ſuperſtition, and by trifling remedies directed by unlearned people. Aſk the parties the true *definition* of a cancer, and the fallacy of their pretenſions is immediately diſcovered. If any one ſhould aſſert a *cancer is cured*, who knows not its *definition*, it would be the height of abſurdity or madneſs to credit ſuch report; for whoever underſtands not the nature and ſymptoms of a diſeaſe, ſo as to give a clear definition, muſt be neceſſarily ignorant of what he attempts to cure, and is liable firſt to deceive himſelf, and afterwards the reſt of mankind.

7. It therefore requires very little conſideration with men of integrity, ſkill, and humanity, whether a dubious and cruel operation ſhould be adopted, when no *real* neceſſity, from an apprehenſion of future ill-conſequences, nor the preſent danger of death, urges ſuch a raſh method.

8. It appears more rational and ſafe to leave ſuch caſes to chance, or to treat them mildly, than by rough, and often vain, attempts at radically curing, to riſk the production

tion of an incurable diſeaſe or ulcer, where none before exiſted.

9. Neither the art of medicine, nor artiſts, are always reſponſible for the ill-ſucceſs of operations; for perſons afflicted with the apprehenſion of cancerous complaints are frequently very impatient: they often fly from ſkill, learning, and ſincerity, into the mercileſs hands of unſkilfulneſs, preſumption, and mean artifice: thouſands thus become victims to their own folly and credulity, and, with a dreadful augmentation of miſery, voluntarily ſhorten their own exiſtence *.

10. In painful tumors, or real cancers, or ulcers of the breaſt, happening at the age of forty or fifty, when the menſes have ceaſed, or nearly ceaſe to flow, the extraction by the knife,

* I lately was called to a ſhocking inſtance of this nature. A gentlewoman had an unpainful ſcirrhus of the breaſt, and applied to a foreign quack, who has for years abuſed the regular practitioners in the public papers:-he uſed ſome applications which ſoon produced ulcers; afterwards a fungus grew rapidly very large, weighing at leaſt eight or ten pounds, horridly fœtid. Two ſurgeons now living in town undertook to cut off the diſeaſed parts, which was performed dexterouſly; but the unfortunate patient languiſhed a ſhort time in inexpreſſible miſery, and died. Innumerable inſtances of this nature may be produced.

knife, under the favourable circumſtances already delivered, has proved, in ſome inſtances, a temporary cure; but in far the greater number the diſeaſe has returned with additional violence and devaſtation, and after cruelly tormenting the afflicted patient for a longer or ſhorter period, always proved fatal.

11. Under ſuch circumſtances of hope and hazard, practitioners in medicine will decide differently. Thoſe who cautiouſly reflect, and who poſſeſs ſenſibility, will avoid recommending a ſucceſsleſs operation, leſt they aggravate human calamity, and ſhorten the duration of life.

The bolder claſs of ſurgeons, particularly the young and inexperienced, and all who think the operation the only chance for relief, will undertake it, and will conſider themſelves juſtified in having practiſed the modes of treatment which authors, but not reaſon, nor humanity, preſcribe *.

12. In

* About ſeven years ago a patient, labouring under an occult cancer of the *teſtes*, was earneſtly adviſed by a very ſkilful ſurgeon, in conſultation with an excellent anatomiſt, to undergo *caſtration*, as the only probable means of ſaving his life, and preventing future ill-conſequences. The patient had ſubmitted, and,

12. In the treatment by proper regimen, adapted to each individual, in conjunction with the remedies, recommended in this treatiſe, while the diſorder is *recent*, a cure has been obtained: ſome inſtances have remained well above ten years, and continue well at this preſent time.

In many other inſtances the diſorder has advanced, and terminated fatally; but thoſe modes of treatment have, in numerous inſtances, alleviated the miſery, and rendered the remaining paſſage through life more comfortable. It ſhould, however, be confeſſed, that whatever mode be purſued, the diſeaſe is frequently incurable, and generally terminates fatally: therefore the cancer, in whatever manner viewed, muſt be conſidered an evil of the greateſt magnitude to human beings,

and, as no one could foreſee the reſult of the operation, he ſettled his affairs. The caſe certainly appeared very deſperate; but he was perfectly cured by internal remedies, chiefly by Plummer's pill, camphor, and nitre, in eleven weeks, and thus happily ſnatched from a moſt dreadful operation, and perhaps from death. This patient has remained in the moſt perfect health, and continues ſo to this day. Another perſon, under ſimilar circumſtances, was cured in the ſame manner. The former was patient to my friend, Dr. Kennedy, Great Queen Street.

beings, which has oppoſed, and *ever muſt*, from its nature, frequently reſiſt all medical attempts in the radical cure. As this is the truth, why riſk, without great caution, the unrelenting and cruel uſe of the knife? Wherefore diſturb a diſorder which in many inſtances is bearable, and ſafely alleviable, in hopes of cure, where ſucceſs rarely happens, but wherein pain is too frequently augmented, and a miſerable death experienced?

The progreſs of the diſorder is ſlow, and its malignity may be often corrected; for by ſkilful management, many have labored under cancerous diſeaſes, for ſeveral years, without any conſiderable inconvenience. Theſe good effects have been produced chiefly by *cinnabarine preparations*, nitre, *Æthiops mineralis*, *mucilaginous gums*, *abſtinence from all acid*, *ſalt* or *ſpicy food*, from all *ſpirituous and vinous liquids*; by keeping the mind calm, for nothing haſtens the diſorder ſo rapidly as perturbations of the mind: frequent *bleedings* are ſometimes neceſſary; *evacuants* of the purgative claſs occaſionally; all correctors of acrimony, as the *ſarſaparilla*, *ſulphureous preparations*, *magneſia alba uſt.* *gum arabic*, *crude*

crude antimony prepared, with or without *nitre*, &c. &c. Theſe various remedies are to be applied to every individual differently, according to the nature of the caſe and conſtitution of the patient; by reflecting on the power and force of the diſeaſe, the ſtrength of the patient, the power of the medicine preſcribed, and the contra-indications. A powerful diſeaſe cannot be removed by trifling remedies; nor ſhould violent medicines be preſcribed in a ſlight complaint, or in debility; but theſe important objects muſt be left to the ſkill of the judicious preſcriber, who will regulate his practice according as circumſtances occur. Nothing but *metallic alteratives*, given ſo as never to ſhock the conſtitution, are the leaſt likely to ſucceed in removing glandular or lymphatic obſtructions. It is playing with the diſeaſe, and amuſing the patient by ſpecious deception, to pretend or expect cures can be performed by trivial remedies in an obſtinate, formidable, and difficult diſeaſe.

On the Management of the cancerous Ulcer, or confirmed manifeſt Cancer of the Breaſt.

The cancerous ulcer may be divided into three ſtages—

1. The *Commencement*.
2. The *augmented* or ſeparating Stage.
3. The *putrid-abſorbing* Stage.

The commencement is commonly an excoriation of the tumor, a black ſpot, tubercle, or a fiſſure near the nipple, with ſcirrhoſity of the adjoining parts, attended with ſharp darting pains, and a thin acrimonious diſcharge, ſufficiently acrid to inflame, and ſometimes corrode the ſurrounding parts.

The external Treatment of the firſt Stage, or Commencement.

If the breaſt be inflamed, and in a ſtate of diſtenſion, emollient fomentations ſhould be applied three or four times a day, and afterward the *ung. populneum*, *album*, *ſambucinum*, or *Goulard's pomade*, *ol. camphor*, &c. &c. Soft cataplaſms are likewiſe uſeful, if their weight on the inflamed ſwelling cauſe no uneaſy

uneaſy ſenſation. The bread and milk poultice, with lard or oil, or the cataplaſm made with *farina ſeminum lini*, may be uſed; to either of which may be added Goulard's *vegeto-mineral water*.

The following liniment has greatly abated the burning heat and ſurrounding inflammation, when the parts are not much diſtended:

No. 11. ℞. Litharg. aur. benè lævigat. ʒiſs.
Acet. diſtillat. ʒj. miſce agitatione, deindè adde
Ol. amygdal. recent. vel
— olivar. opt. ʒiij.
F. linimentum, parum cujus applicandum partibus inflammatis, ter vel quater de die, ope plumæ mollis.

The *vegeto-mineral water*, reduced to half its uſual ſtrength, is frequently uſeful as a fomentation, to be applied warm; or ſolutions of camphor with decorticated almonds and water.

It ſhould be remarked, that no application agrees with two perſons equally alike; therefore what occaſions moſt eaſe ſhould be continued, and whatever evidently increaſes pain ſhould be rejected. The ſurgeon, however, ſhould

ſhould uſe caution, leſt he be deceived on this ſubject; for patients under pain are often apt to attribute their miſery or eaſe to falſe cauſes. They frequently condemn an application or inward remedy as the cauſe of their torment, when the pain ariſes from the nature of the complaint; and often perſuade themſelves, under any mitigation of the ſymptoms, that the laſt thing applied produced the alleviating effect. This error ſhould be rectified.

The Internal Treatment of the firſt Stage.

The remedies internally preſcribed ſhould be accommodated to the conſtitutions of patients. To the plethoric and florid, repeated bleeding, laxatives, and antiphlogiſtics, ſhould be preſcribed, as the cathartic ſalts, nitre, *ſal ſodæ*, *prunellæ*, *ſal polychreſt*, *tartarum ſolubile*, &c.

To the pallid, nervous, and relaxed, ſhould be preſcribed *antiſpaſmodies*, as aſſafœtida, camphora, valerian, &c. to diminiſh irritability; aloetic laxatives, ſuch as *ſapo* and *pilula aromatica*, *extractum catharticum*, *pilula Rufi*, with our *pulvis antimonialis*, of the new College

lege Diſpenſatory, one, two, or three grains of the former, and two or three of the latter, every night, to prevent or remove conſtipation. Mild mineral alteratives, and correctors of acrimony, are to be recommended, and long continued.

To the corpulent, cold, languid, and relaxed, if the tumor be ſpongeous or ſoftiſh, on a ſuppoſition that the vaſcular ſyſtem is relaxed, the chalybeate preparations have been uſeful; but are improper if the parts are inflamed, or the tumors very hard. The *limatura martis præparata, flores vel tinctura martial.* and ſimilar preparations, may be preſcribed, if heat or pain do not ſucceed their exhibition.

For the plethoric,

No. 12. ℞. Sal. nitr.
——Sodæ aa. gr. x.
Julep. e camph.
Aq. pur. aa. ℥j.
F. hauſtus ter in die ſumendus.

Or the *pulvis* cum *cinnab.* and *nitr.* to ℈ſs. or ℈ij. ter de die, ex ℥ij. decocti pectoralis.

The *decoctum nitroſum* may be uſed, *pro potu ordinario.*

No. 13.

No. 13. ℞. Sal. Rupel. ℥j. ſolve in
Aq. pur. ℥iij. deinde adde
Emulſionis commun. ℥v.
F. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. iiij. pro re nata, in conſtipatione.

The Dog and Duck, Epſom, and ſimilar waters, are likewiſe good antiphlogiſtic purgatives for the plethoric.

For the pallid, nervous, bilious, and relaxed patients,

No. 14. ℞. Pil. ex colocynth. cum aloe ℥j.
Saponis amygdal. ℥ſs. M. accurate.
F. pilulæ No. xx. ſumat j. vel ij. pro re nata.

The pill No. 2 or No. 6, may be ordered as a deobſtruent and corrector with the following powder:

No. 15. ℞. Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ℥iij.
Sal. nitr.
Pulv. e tragacanth. c. aa. ℥j. M. f. pulvis, dividendus in xij. doſes, quarum capiat unam ter vel quater de die ex coch. ij. julep. e camph. vel aquæ puræ.

Or the following bolus and draught may be taken:

No. 16. ℞. Æthiop. min. recte præparat. gr. xij. ad ʒſs.*
Pulv. camph. gr. v. ſyr. balſam. q. s.
F. bolus, ter vel quater de die ſumendus, ſuperbibendo hauſtum ſequentem:

No. 17. ℞. Sal. ſodæ gr. viij. ad gr. xij. ſolve in
Julep. e camph. ʒiſs. deinde adde
Eſſent. antimon. Huxham gutt. xxx. f. hauſtus.

Opiates, with the afore-mentioned claſs of patients, ſhould be avoided, as a light delirium and coſtiveneſs frequently ſucceed their adminiſtration.

The *Æthiops vegetabilis*, *antimonium crudum* ppt., Huxham's *Æthiops antimonialis*, and ſuch like preparations are uſeful.

Decoctum ſarſaparillæ, or *aq. hordeata*, and gum arabic, are proper, *pro potu ordinario*.

For the corpulent, with a languid circulation, the cold, and debilitated.

Aloetics as laxatives; tonics are ſometimes, though rarely, neceſſary; in which latter caſe the medicines for the bilious and nervous claſs ſhould be preferred.

No. 18. ℞. Infuſ. amar. ʒiſs.
Tinct. flor. mart. ʒj. M.
F. hauſtus bis vel ter de die ſumendus.

* By triturating equal parts of *argentum vivum* and *flores ſulph.*, without heat, according to our Royal College Diſpenſatory.

Or,

Or,

No. 19. ℞. Flor. mart. ʒiſs.
Spec. aromat. ʒij.
Con. roſar. ʒiiſs. M.
F. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. ter de die.

Other chalybeates, and ſometimes the cortex Peruvianus in milk, will be proper.

No. 20. ℞. Pulv. cort. Peruv. ʒij.
Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒj. M.
F. pulvis, dividendus in viij. doſes, quarum ſumat unam ter de die ex coch iij. aquæ puræ, hordeatæ, vel julep. e camphor.

With this claſs of patients a *dry diet* is abſolutely neceſſary.

It ſhould be obſerved, that the inſtances are few in which the bark, or other tonics, prove uſeful; for, on the contrary, they oftener excite pain; under which circumſtance they ſhould be immediately diſcontinued.

On the external Treatment of the augmented or ſeparating Stage of the Cancer.

The rules for deterging, incarning, and cicatriſing ulcers in general, are precluded in the cancerous ulcer; for human art com-

monly fails in the attempt to deterge, incarn, or cicatriſe the cancer.

If the diſcharge of the ulcerated parts ſhould be very copious, no aſtringent applications ſhould be uſed, for they create pain.

The ulcers ſhould be cleanſed with warm camphorated lotions, &c.

The mildeſt ointments ſpread on lint ſhould be uſed, as the unguentum album, or any of the unguents already recommended.

No. 21. ℞. Sperm. ceti ʒij.
Ol. mucilag. ʒviij.
F. unguentum ſecundum artem.

Or,

No. 22. ℞. Axung. porcin. recent. ℔j.
Ceruſſ. ppt. ʒiv. F. unguentum.

The ulcerations ſhould be kept very clean; but this is difficult, owing to the irregular ſurfaces of the ulcers, and the danger of irritating the parts affected.

No. 23. ℞. Extract. ſaturn. Goulard ʒj.
Aq. pur. mollis ℔ij. F. lotio.
No. 24. ℞. Sacchar. ſaturn. ʒj.
Aq. roſar. ℔ij. M. F. lotio.
No. 25. ℞. Merc. corroſ. ſub. gr. xv. ſolve in
Aq. flor. ſambuc. ℔ij. F. lotio.

When

When the ſurfaces of the ulcers are not very green and foul, the lotions 23 and 24, made tepid, will be proper.

Cinnabarine fumigations are likewiſe neceſſary, if no pain follow their uſe.

When the ulcers are very foul, greeniſh, and fœtid, the lotion 25 ſhould be recommended, the *aqua calcis* or *phagædenica*, and ſimilar detergers.

When freſh dreſſings are applied, after the ulcers are well cleanſed, in the gentleſt manner poſſible, all the humidity ſhould be abſorbed, whether it be cauſed by the lotion or the ulcerous diſcharge; for the matter, or any part of it, remaining on the ulcer, or even in its fiſſures, will hourly become more acrid, create pain, and excoriate the adjoining ſkin.

The lotions may be applied with a feather, or in the parts difficult of acceſs by a ſyringe; but each mode ſhould be performed with a light hand, leſt, by the ulcerations being irritated, the patient's miſery ſhould be increaſed.

After the diſeaſed parts are well cleanſed and dried, the *ſaturnine* ointments, or, in ſhort, whatever agrees beſt with the ſore, ſhould be uſed, and repeated.

The

The carrot cataplaſm, for the purpoſe of covering the foul uneven ſurface of the ulcer, or a cataplaſm of potatoes, being innocent applications, frequently prevent, in ſome meaſure, the fetor, or putrid exhalations, from annoying the patients or attendants. Powdered camphor may be likewiſe added.

The ſuppoſition of any *ſpecific* qualities in the carrot, or ſuch like applications, for the cure of cancers, argues the moſt ridiculous credulity.

A ſtrong decoction of the leaves of hemlock, or a ſolution of its extract, joined with linſeed flour, or other innocent farinaceous ſubſtances, have been uſed as cataplaſms; the bruiſed leaves of *cicuta* are likewiſe applied, with no inconſiderable faith, even by learned, and apparently rational practitioners, as poſſeſſing *ſpecific* powers in curing cancers.

Such ill-founded expectations can only ariſe from an unacquaintance with the immediate cauſes, progreſs, and termination of cancers, and the properties of ſuch medicaments. The fiery mad paſſion after narcotic and acrid poiſons, as ſpecific remedies, rages now with incredible and thoughtleſs fury, particularly

particularly amongſt juvenile practitioners. Colleges and Univerſities, where plauſible theories, but little experience in practice, abound, have ſanctified the exhibition of many poiſons, as may be ſeen in foreign diſpenſatories. Irreparable miſchief has been produced; but perhaps the voice of an individual, at preſent, would be loſt amidſt the violent clamours of the inexperienced and prejudiced, otherwiſe nothing merits more ſevere animadverſion. The admiſſion of poiſons, as ſpecifics, is the moſt effectual mode of wreſting from the art all principles of true ſcience and learning, at the hazard of introducing the moſt dangerous and raſh empiricism*.

If, however, any eaſe from the hemlock or ſolanum can be procured by external application,

* A young gentleman, a major in the army, lately was ſuddenly deprived of life by taking a large doſe of the extract of hemlock as a remedy. Another lingered and died in ſtrong convulſions by the uſe of an arſenical preparation given for the ague. As to the pretended internal virtues of hemlock in curing a real cancer, nothing but folly could ſuppoſe it. I have made the moſt circumſpect, yet, I hope, candid, enquiries, to prove whether hemlock ever cured a confirmed cancer; but find all candid phyſicians and ſurgeons acknowledge their diſappointment in attempting the cure by hemlock, and this my own experience confirms. Profeſſor

tion, it might be preſcribed; but there ariſes a diſguſting ſtench from the hemlock bruiſed, producing ſometimes dizzineſs and pains in the head; and certainly it neither reſolves the tumor, deterges, incarns, nor cicatriſes a malignant cancerous ulcer.

But as *cicuta* has been extolled, and as nothing ſhould be omitted which is likely to prove ſerviceable, the following lotion is given, as a *palliative*, from a reſpectable author:

No. 26. ℞. Extract. cicutæ ʒiij. ſolve in
Aq. calcis ℔ij. F. lotio.

Eſt in ulcere cancroſo efficax medicamentum, ſays the learned author; or an anodyne fomentation may be prepared from the follow-

feſſor De Haen, of Vienna, aſſerts the ſame. See his Epiſtle againſt Storck, proving the whole account about *hemlock* to have been fabricated to anſwer a ſelf-intereſted purpoſe that is now well known. How ſhocking to reflect on the credulity of medical practitioners in this caſe; but what ſhall we ſay of the dreadful effects of the *digitalis*, which has been ſo fatally preſcribed in dropſies without any reflection on conſequences? Every one verſed in anatomy and pathology, with the diſeaſed ſtate of the viſcera of hydropics, muſt perceive the total impoſſibility of that acrid poiſon being beneficial; on the contrary, dangerous.

ing herbs, and applied warm for a quarter or half an hour:

No. 27. ℞. Fol. hyoſciami.
Flor. ſambuci aa. ℥ſs.
Capit. papav. alba ℥ij. coque in aq. pur. ℔ij,
F. fotus mammæ affectæ bis vel ter de die tepide applicandus ope lintei quadruplicati.

Cataplaſms, for the purpoſe of mitigating pain, may be uſed, if their weight do not produce uneaſy ſenſations.

No. 28. ℞. Farinæ ſem lini.
———fol. cicutæ aa, ℥iij, lactis q. s, coque ad cataplaſma.

Or,

℞. Farinæ herbarum præcedentium ℥vj.
Aquæ vegeto-mineralis q. s. coquantur ad cataplaſma.

When large maſſes of the tumor become green, livid, and ſphacelate, they ſhould be removed gently, by holding the diſeaſed parts with a pair of forceps, and ſeparating them from their adheſions, ſo as never to occaſion an hæmorrhage. The ſphacelated portions being removed as often as neceſſary, prevents the unfortunate patient from breathing in that mephitic air, which is frequently the cauſe

cauſe of an hectic fever. *Concentrated nitrous acid* immediately ſtops the bleeding in the arteries of the breaſt, without ligature.

The following mucilaginous and antiputreſcent application may be very uſeful to diminiſh the putridity:

No. 29. ℞. Camphor ʒij.
Mucilag. gummi arab. ℔j. diligenter terendo miſceantur.

This preparation is likewiſe uſeful in poultices of linſeed, as an antiſpaſmodic and reſolvent.

The *cataplaſma ex dauco* may be prepared in the following manner;

No. 30. ℞. Dauci flavi q. v. fiat raſura, huic adde
Decocti ſaturati cicutæ q. s. F. cataplaſma.

Hæmorrhages happening in the cancer will generally be checked by ſtyptic applications, by compreſſion on the artery; but if the means fail, the bleeding may be ſtopped by lint, formed into ſmall doſſils, thoroughly moiſtened in *ol. terebinth. ætheriale*, or the *acidum nitroſum concentratum*, with well-adapted bandage.

In

In this dreadful ſtage of the diſorder the patient ſhould uſe little exerciſe.

Freſh pure air ſhould paſs through the chamber as often as poſſible.

The vapor of vinegar ſhould be diffuſed through the room, or aromatic herbs ſhould be burnt, to diminiſh the putridity, for the purpoſe of reſpiration.

The odoriferous gums, as *thus*, *benzoinum*, *myrrh*, &c., may be rubbed on heated iron.

The ſurgeon ſhould be careful to avoid the reception of any part of the putridity by an abraſion of the ſkin on his fingers, or by any ſlight ſcratch; for if an abſorption ſhould be the conſequence, a putrid malignant fever may be produced: this I once experienced. A little *oleum camphoræ* rubbed on the fingers is a preventive.

After the ulcers are dreſſed according to art, a bladder, ſoftened with oil, may cover the dreſſings.

All the parts ſurrounding the ulcers, where there is no excoriation, ſhould be defended from the acrimony of the diſcharge by any ſoft ſimple unguent, oleum camphoræ, or the ointments, No. 21, 22.

The

The *internal* treatment of this ſtage of the diſorder ſhould be ſimilar to the antecedent ſtage; the indications ſhould be drawn more from the various circumſtances ariſing, and the different conſtitutions of the patients, than from any fixed regular plan of practice. Diſorders are irregular in their attacks; practitioners ſhould be diſcerning and cautious, and accommodate their practice to individuals.

To correct the putrid acrimony, the following and ſimilar preſcriptions have proved advantageous;

No. 31. ℞. Pulv. cort. Peruv.
Cinnab. antimon. ppt. aa ʒij. M.
F. pulvis, dividendus in viij. doſes, quarum ſumat unam ter de die in pauxillo ſyrupi ſimplicis, vel aliqua gelatina, ſuperbibendo hauſtum ſequentem.

No. 32. ℞. Julep. e camph. ʒvj.
Decoct. cort. Peruv. ℥j.
Tinct. ejuſdem ʒij. F. hauſtus.

It muſt be obſerved, that the bark and other tonics ſometimes occaſion difficulty in reſpiration, and therefore ſhould be cautiouſly preſcribed, or rather omitted.

In this ſtage of the diſorder, if the palliative treatment be thought neceſſary, or great pain ſhould indicate the abſolute neceſſity of adminiſtering

adminiſtering narcotics, opium may be preſcribed, but it is often uſeleſs.

No. 33. ℞. Pulv. opii gr. xv.
—— camphor. ʒſs. ſyr. balſam. vel conſ. cynoſbat. q. s.
F. pilulæ, No. xxx. quarum capiat unam, duas vel tres ſecundum doloris violentiam.

Or the following drops may be uſed for the ſame purpoſe:

No. 34. ℞. Spirit. nitr. dulc.
Tinct. opii aa. ʒj. M. cujus ſumat gtt. xxx. vel lx. urgente dolore, ex coch. iii. aquæ hordeatæ.

The hemlock has been given for ſimilar purpoſes, by many practitioners; whoever expects a cure by hemlock will be deceived: but neither the one remedy nor other will give eaſe, nor produce ſtupefaction, in many inſtances, and they commonly cauſe coſtiveneſs.

On the Treatment of the third, or putrid-abſorbing Stage of the Cancer.

During the ſeparating ſtage the abſorbent ſyſtem ſeems, in a certain degree, to be impervious;

pervious; but when the diſeaſed, obſtructed, and putrid parts, which had previouſly formed the tumor, have ſeparated, the abſorbent veſſels have ſufficient power to receive more of the putrid acrimony, and, by communication with the whole maſs of blood, a hectic, and ſometimes a remitting putrid fever, accompanies all the other grievous ſymptoms.

In this *hopeleſs ſtate* of the cancer all medical endeavours ſhould be directed to a palliation of ſymptoms, in conjunction with all the former methods.

In vomitings, the ſaline draught, and confectio cardiaca, or Hoffman's anodyne liquor, are uſeful.

Purgings ſhould be checked by the julep. e cret. and opiates, or the extractum ligni Campechens. diſſolved in *aq. cinnam. ſimplex.*

Coſtiveneſs ſhould be prevented or removed by mild eccoprotics or laxative oily clyſters.

Thirſt ſhould be allayed by innocent liquors, *aqua hordeata*, mint and balm tea, or ſuch like drinks.

Acids are apt to increaſe pain.

The

The *aphthæ*, or thruſh in the mouth, ſhould be removed by ſolutions of *borax* and *ſyrupus mororum*, &c.

The ulcerated parts ſhould be cleanſed as much as poſſible by the means already recommended.

On the ſcirrhus and cancerous Ulcer of the Womb.

There are ſeveral diſorders which ariſe from *female inattention*, or neglect of taking proper remedies, at, or near, the time of *menſtruation ceaſing*; but the moſt grievous and painful of all is the ſcirrhus or cancer of the uterus.

Theſe diſorders ſometimes ariſe at an earlier period of life, from injuries in labor, or from a conſtitutional cancerous diſpoſition; but a very extenſive experience in practice, fully juſtifies me in aſſerting, that they are very unfrequent.

The diſorder may be divided into three ſtadia, the *ſcirrhus*, the *ulcerous*, and the *putrid ſeparating ſtage*.

The firſt is an induration of the womb, or ſome part of it, with or without tubercula.

This

This can only be diſtinguiſhable by the examination of a ſkilful man-midwife, who eaſily determines whether the *os internum*, or mouth of the womb, be in a ſound ſtate, *indurated*, affected with *tubercula*, fiſſures, or an irregular uneven ſurface, like the edge of a ſaw.

This ſtage of the diſeaſe, in its beginning, is not much attended to; the delicacy of the female ſex frequently prevents inquiry; for while no great pain is felt, no apprehenſion of diſeaſe exiſts in the female mind: from a want of intelligence, however, all the future inexpreſſible miſeries probably ariſe.

When the diſeaſe increaſes, it is accompanied with acute pains: its ſpecies at this period is very often not diſcovered; and it has been frequently treated by phyſicians, of no inconſiderable reputation, as a complaint of the inteſtines, kidnies, or urinary bladder.

The commencement of the ſcirrhus is the true time to attempt the radical cure: afterwards it frequently happens that the utmoſt ſkill in medicine only extends to a palliation of ſymptoms, and in ſome caſes can ſcarcely be obtained by any medicine.

As

As the *tubercula* increaſe in ſize, or as the *os tincæ*, or other parts of the uterus become larger and harder, the pains in the back, loins, under the *os pubis*, down the fore part of the thighs, increaſe, are more frequent, and exactly ſimilar to labor pains, with or without a ſenſation or bearing down, or protruſion of the *os internum*; and ſometimes the uterus, from the relaxation and elongation of its ligaments, abſolutely falls down into the vagina.

An obſtetric examination aſcertains immediately the ſource of all theſe ſymptoms; for although the *ovaria*, or the uterus itſelf, may be enlarged and indurated many years, yet they rarely occaſion much pain, unleſs the *os internum*, or the part of the uterus immediately connected with it, be affected. This immenſe experience confirms.

The treatment of this ſcirrhous ſtage of the diſeaſe ſhould be exactly ſimilar to that recommended in the ſcirrhous breaſts, but without opiates or narcotics, if the radical cure be attempted.

The ulcerous ſtage of the cancer of the uterus, or womb, is known by the fœtor of

the fluid diſcharged, which has a dark colored ſtain, is extremely acrimonious and putrid, and frequently excoriates the vagina.

The patient ſuffers the moſt excruciating tortures in the back, loins, abdomen, region of the pubis, and down the anterior part of the thighs, in the direction of the femoral artery and nerve, exactly like labor pains, without any proſpect of delivery, and *bends the body forwards*; but the tumor often preſſing on the neck of the *veſica urinaria*, or on the *rectum*, an obſtinate obſtruction of urine or feces is the conſequence. The tumor of the uterus taking another direction, neither coſtiveneſs nor a ſtoppage of urine are amongſt the ſymptoms, but an involuntary diſcharge of both: this latter caſe is leſs frequent than the former.

The diſeaſe remains in this dreadful ſtate for one, two, or three years, ſhocking to the feelings of every human beholder of the ſcene, but inexpreſſibly ſo to the truly miſerable ſufferer, who juſtly merits our utmoſt compaſſion and aſſiſtance.

In this ſtage ſmall abſceſſes forming repeatedly, inflaming, ſwelling, and at laſt burſting,

do

do not a little add to the exquiſite tortures. After a large diſcharge, ſome little reſpite from miſery, but not always, is experienced.

In the *putrid ſeparating ſtage*, which continues in ſome inſtances many months, the uterus throws off ſlough after ſlough of its ſubſtance with dreadful acute pains. The fœtor becomes horridly putrid, and is diſtinguiſhable by the ſmell, to thoſe who are accuſtomed to attend theſe lamentable caſes, from any other ſpecies of putrefaction in the human body. Ulcers behind the ears, and of the genital parts, &c. have their peculiar ſmell, diſtinct from other ulcers.

In this *putrid ſeparating ſtage*, the uterus often becomes like a honeycomb, if ſmall and repeated ſeparations happen: in other inſtances, large maſſes ſeparate and are thrown off, till ſcarce any part of the uterus remains. Nauſea, vomitings, coſtiveneſs, floodings, diarrhœa, retention or an involuntary emiſſion of urine, and hectic remitting fevers, with innumerable concomitant ſymptoms.

The appearance of ſome diſſections *poſt mortem*, under my own inſpection, have

ſhewn the ſtate of the parts after the cruel ravages of the diſeaſe.

A variety of theſe diſſections I may hereafter publiſh, if likely to benefit ſociety.

The *remote cauſes* are, injuries received from difficult or frequent labors, obſtructed menſes or floodings, *habitual obſtinate coſtiveneſs*, inattention to the uſe of gentle evacuants at the *termination* of the menſtrual flux, neglected fluor albus, venereal infection unſkilfully treated, violent and inordinate paſſions, extreme grief, &c., accidental lacerations, ſcratches, and contuſions of the *os internum:* an hereditary ſcrophulous or cancerous diſpoſition; alſo a neglect of diet; colds, or other inattentions during the periodical monthly evacuations; cold ſea bathing, or cold bathing at an improper time; or, in ſhort, any thing which may ſuddenly check or ſuppreſs the flowing of the menſes.

The beſt method of preventing the diſeaſe is to avoid, as much as poſſible, the abovementioned remote cauſes.

The *proximate* or *immediate cauſes* are, an impeded ſluggiſh circulation of the blood in the lower parts of the abdomen, congeſtions in

in its viſcera, obſtructions in the arterial, venal, and lymphatic veſſels, but moſtly and principally diſtenſion, induration, excoriations or ſcratches in the mouth of the uterus. The body of the uterus, or its appendices, being much ſwelled or indurated, do not occaſion exquiſite pain; except in proportion as they preſs on the other viſcera, or force other parts, in ſome meaſure, from their true ſituation. The ſcirrhus or ulceration that begins in the *os uteri* is what is ſo exquiſitely painful and dangerous. Whether this part of the uterus be diſeaſed, is eaſily diſcoverable by an obſtetric examination; therefore I have always conſidered phyſicians defective in knowledge when they have not practiſed midwifery; for without ſuch advantage, it is not eaſy to comprehend this malady.

The congeſtions, or irritating fluids, in the ſubſtance of the *os tincæ*, or extraneous bodies within the uterus, ſtimulating the uterus to contraction, make violent efforts to exclude the irritating cauſes: thus the pains are exactly ſimilar to ſtrong labor, by which they are diſtinguiſhed from all other pains in the abdominal, lumbar regions, or pelvis, by ſkilful practitioners.

The Prognoſtic of the Scirrhus or cancerous Ulcer of the Womb.

The diſorder, when recent, has been ſometimes cured by the alterative methods I invented; in other inſtances the cancer has increaſed and proved fatal*. When the cancer is advanced, with exquiſite pains and ulcerations, it is rarely curable; and even, in ſome inſtances, the painful ſymptoms can ſcarcely be palliated by narcotics. As ſome very deſperate caſes have been cured by alteratives, though by far the greater number have ended fatally, yet it is juſtifiable to perſevere in the attempt, on rational principles, before we reſign the patient to opium and a miſerable death. The phyſician ſhould appriſe the friends of the danger: to his brethren of the faculty he ſhould explain the anatomical and pathological reaſons of the improbability of a cure happening. Every thing ſhould be attempted, nothing promiſed; by which means the art of phyſic will not be accuſed of uncertainty, deluſion, or ignorance.

The

* See the letters that follow this treatiſe on cancers.

The Attempts to cure the Scirrhus or Cancer of the Womb.

I have ſeen various methods of cure tried, particularly by *hemlock*, *nightſhade*, *henbane*, *mercury* alone, *bleedings*, *neutral ſalts*, low diet, &c., but always unſucceſsfully.

As to narcotics, as hemlock, opium, and the poiſons, whoever reflects on the ſtructure, ſituation, and uſes of the uterus, the natural hardneſs of its ſubſtance, the minuteneſs and tortuous progreſs of its arteries, veins, lymphatics, &c., will eaſily conceive the improbability of whatever diminiſhes arterial action being able to penetrate and remove congeſtions or ſtagnations in this organ of generation: on the contrary, opium, hemlock, &c., ſeem more capable of fixing the diſeaſe.

From which conſideration I was induced to attempt a more rational plan of cure, by uniting the *ſulphureous antimonials* with the preparations of *hydrargyrus*. In all the caſes I have been conſulted, I have never yet ſeen patients cured by any other methods; but by

mineral

mineral alteratives, given in very ſmall doſes, and repeated now and then, an unfortunate victim to this horrid diſeaſe has been ſnatched from death, and poſitively cured.

The remedies I have uſed are,

Cinnabar antimonii.

——— factitium, which are nearly the ſame.

Æthiops mineralis.

——— antimonialis.

Hydrargyrus and antimonial ſulphurs.

Sulphur antimonii præcipit. cum aquila alba.

Kermes mineralis.

Nitrum puriſſimum.

Merc. dulc. xij. cies ſub. & lotus cum ſulph. aurat. ant. long rubbed together.

Camphora.

Neutral ſalts.

Antimonialia.

Tartarum emeticum cum merc. corroſ. ſub., to the ſixteenth part of a grain, diſſolved.

Turp. mineral. cum Kerm. mineral.

The modes in which ſuch remedies have been applied are, to preſcribe very ſmall doſes, and drink after each, ſome ſolution of camphor

phor and nitre, &c. In ſhort, the general plan will be ſeen in the extraordinary caſe and cure given in the letter on medical vanity.

The remedies are likewiſe explained in the foregoing part, which treats of the cancers of the breaſts; but will hereafter be augmented with a view of the principles on which they have been preſcribed, in a treatiſe on the uſe of metallic alteratives in chronic diſeaſes, &c. In this work will be given *formulæ* of all the preſcriptions I have ever uſed of the mineral alterative claſs *.

It is abſolutely neceſſary to remark, that the alteratives, in very *ſmall doſes*, ſhould be given at *exact diſtances*, that the one doſe ſhould ſucceed another; they muſt likewiſe be continued *many months*. The action of theſe remedies, whether by changing and liquifying the congeſted matter, or by rendering the impervious veſſels open in the *tela celluloſa*, and its minuteſt cells, are inquiries which

* Many may be ſeen in the Treatiſe on ulcerated Legs and Impurities of the Blood; more in the Treatiſe on nervous, mental, and convulſive Diſeaſes, &c.

which have much occupied my attention; the reſult will hereafter be communicated.

On palliating the Symptoms.

The powder, compoſed of Æthiops and nitre, or cinnabar and nitre, already given, is frequently uſeful in diminiſhing the dreadful ſymptoms, and correcting the prevailing acrimony.

Anodyne and detergent injections, to mitigate pain, and deterge the vagina and the ulcers in the *os tincæ*, oleaginous clyſters, with opiates, act as emollients and anodynes, their effect is eaſily conceived by conſidering the proximity of the *uterus* to the *rectum*.

The whole vagina ſhould be frequently moiſtened with *ol. camphor.* to prevent the acrid matter corroding the part.

Where neither eaſe nor ſleep can be acquired without opium, that remedy may be called into internal uſe; but it does not correſpond with any attempt at the radical cure.

Fevers.

Fevers.

The fevers attendant on the cancerous ulcer of the uterus are of the hectic kind, and commonly ariſe from the violence of the pain, or an abſorption of putrid matter: they waſte the body, prevent nutrition, fluſh the face after meals, occaſion heat, thirſt, and quicken the pulſe, cauſe colliquative ſweats, loſs of ſleep, &c.

The antiphlogiſtic regimen and remedies, as the common ſaline or volatile ſaline draught, ſal diureticus, *ſpiritus Mindereri*, nitre, according to the ſpecies of fever; and, in nervous irritability, camphor, caſtor, valerian; or, to the pallid and more torpid habits, the gums, as aſſafœtida, ſagapenum, myrrh, &c., may be proper, as auxiliaries.

The ſymptomatic fever, however, ariſing from abſorption of the cancerous acrimony, can only be palliated, unleſs the cauſes could be removed; but this is generally impracticable.

Bark and all antiſeptics commonly increaſe pain in the cancerous ulcer of the uterus. Oleaginous medicines, with camphor and gum arabic,

arabic, ſometimes obtund acrimony, and eaſe pains, &c.; but to anſwer more important purpoſes, they may be united by means of alkaline ſalts with aqueous fluids, to which may be added nitre, neutral ſalts, according to the nature of the caſe and circumſtances.

Suppreſſion of Urine.

This may ariſe from the relaxation of the ligaments of the uterus, by which it falls lower down in the pelvis and vagina; this preſſing on the *meatus urinarius*, ſuppreſſes the urine.

The enlargement and ſcirrhus of the uterus may likewiſe, without any relaxation of the ligaments, produce the ſame effect.

Hydatides, or other ſubſtances within the uterus, preſſing towards the *os tincæ* to be evacuated, frequently ſuppreſs the urine, and excite terrible pains, equal to the ſtrongeſt labor.

In the relaxation of the ligaments of the uterus, without ſcirrhus or tumor, even in the early months of pregnancy, the cortex and tonics, with a dry diet, are neceſſary.

In

In all theſe caſes the urine, if expedient, muſt be evacuated by means of a catheter.

If there be difficulty in paſſing the catheter in the uſual mode, which I have frequently obſerved under the foregoing circumſtances, I have been obliged to put the patient in a poſture ſimilar to that adopted in the reduction of the hernia; the head placed on a pillow on the floor, and the legs on the bed; by which the thoracical and abdominal viſcera are drawn upwards, and by preſſing the uterus out of the direction of the urethra, the urine has eaſily flowed.

No medicines can remove theſe cauſes; to preſcribe would be futile.

Coſtiveneſs.

This ſhould be treated by caſtor oil, gentle eccoprotics, infuſion of ſenna, *tartarum ſolubile*, oleaginous purgatives; but if ariſing from the preſſure of the uterus, clyſters of oil and purging remedies are to be injected in the poſition recommended in paſſing the catheter, or the pipe cannot be always introduced.

Nauſea

Nauſea and Vomiting.

This being ſymptomatic, and ariſing from the ſenſibility of the uterus, and its connection with the branches of the nerve called *par vagum*, &c., can only be palliated by *magneſia uſta* and *pulv. rhei*, *tinctura ſennæ*, volatile ſaline draughts, and abſtinence from liquids.

Purgings.

In the latter ſtages of the cancer of the womb, purgings are troubleſome: they commonly ariſe from putrid cauſes, when the uterus has been ulcerated, and has ſloughed away by ſmall portions, or in matter.

This evacuation is rarely checked without increaſing other evils; but the *extractum ligni Campechenſis* in cinnamon water, *julep. e creta*, the *pulvis terra Japon.*, and all the milder aſtringents, may be uſeful.

Putrid Diſcharge.

This diſcharge, which is exceedingly fœtid, cannot be reſtrained nor corrected. The

The only thing art can accompliſh is to defend the vagina from its corroding acrimony and excoriating qualities.

Soft unguents, camphorated oil, liniments of *litharg. aur. acetum* and oil, have been uſed with ſucceſs.

Violent Pains.

If ariſing from the *os internum* being ſtimulated by hydatids, or any extraneous ſubſtance in the uterus, they cannot be diminiſhed until the irritating cauſe be evacuated. Pain, in this caſe, though a cruel evil, is the only remedy to relieve the patient. I have been averſe to check the pain under theſe circumſtances, (which are ſometimes aſcertained by an obſtetric examination) becauſe obtunding the pain by opium prolongs the evil.

If no flooding attend, the *pulvis e myrrh.* &c., or ſimilar remedies, may be given.

Theſe pains have laſted, in ſome inſtances, many months, the uterus repeatedly throwing off *hydatids*, or maſſes of coagulated blood mixed with true coagulable lymph; after which the patient has recovered: but

the ſooner the maſſes are diſcharged, the greater the probability of a cure. The uterus, after long continued pain, has ſuffered ſuch great injury as, in the end, to ulcerate and terminate fatally.

Floodings.

Floodings are no uncommon ſymptoms of uterine ſcirrhoſities or cancer: they ſometimes procure the patient a little reſpite from pain, and future eaſe: their cauſe, however, ſhould be aſcertained, whether merely from a relaxation of the uterine veſſels, or from ſome maſs which the efforts of the uterus would remove. In the former caſe, gentle braces may be expedient; in the latter, nothing but the removal of the irritating cauſe will avail.

Hiccups.

This ſymptom is the forerunner of great danger, and ariſes, if the leaſt dangerous, from flatus in the ſtomach irritating the diaphgram; if more ſerious, from the extrication of fixed air in the commencing gangrene, or putrefaction of the abdominal viſcera, or parts

parts contiguous to the uterus, as the bladder, rectum, or the uterus itſelf.

The former requires gentle carminative ecoprotics, *aqua calcis*, *magneſia alba uſta*, to direct the flatus downwards, as in hyſteric caſes*; in the latter nothing ſucceeds, and all medicine can attempt is to give carminitives and cardiacs.

Comatoſe Symptoms,

If not produced by narcotics, are the immediate forerunners of the patient's diſſolution.

The palliative plans, to alleviate ſymptoms, are only to be conſidered general, their ſpecific and individual application is to depend on the ſkill of the preſcriber. They are collected from my own long obſervation, and are the language of experience; but a conſideration of all contra-indications is earneſtly recommended.

A preparation of the *terra ponderoſa* has been lately extolled as an excellent remedy

* See hyſteric complaints in this Treatiſe.

for cancerous and ſcrophulous ſwellings. I ſhall try its effects, and ſhall be happy if it ſhould ſucceed better than the plan I have recommended. I do not find, however, it has anſwered ſalutary expectations.

On Pretenders to Secrets in the Cure of Cancers, &c.

Pretenders to cure the cancer have appeared in every age: they ſwarm to all great cities, or generate in ſucceſſion; for no ſooner does one pretender diſappear, than another ſupplies, his place with the introduction of ſome *ſurpriſing ſecret* and myſterious novelty. Three ſpecies of pretenders may be obſerved. The firſt are arch, daring intruders, capable of all ſorts of tricks and deception, who, perceiving ſome predeceſſor, in iniquity, has acquired pecuniary advantages from laviſh and unſkilful promiſes, which coſt nothing but the ſacrifice of integrity and honeſty, boldly purſue a ſimilar line of atrocious conduct: they always find weak, credulous people, on whom they can impoſe and raiſe contributions with impunity. A ſecond ſort are thoſe who, having ſeen a few milky or other accidental diſorders of the breaſts cured, while

ſome

ſome particular applications or remedies were uſed, conclude the ſucceſs owing to the medicines laſt preſcribed; in which, for want of true reaſoning, they are often deceived. From the cure of caſes, quite diſſimilar to cancerous complaints, have ſome practitioners erected themſelves into a great, though temporary, reputation for curing cancers. Firſt, they have deceived themſelves, through not knowing the differences or ſtages of diſeaſes with preciſion: then they zealouſly obtrude their chimerical notions on others; ſometimes indeed deſignedly; in other inſtances through error or infatuation. The third ſpecies of deluders are quite different from the former two: theſe are good-intentioned perſons, who have great and implicit faith in their own crude conceits, or in ſome family noſtrum; for a plaiſter, poultices, or diet drink, of *ſecret compoſition*, according to theſe believers, infallibly cure the cancer. Milky breaſts, or contuſions, perhaps, have amended while the noſtrum was applied: hence great encomiums on many inefficacious and uſeleſs medicines; hence a variety of ſuperſtitious remedies for the cancer. Theſe people, not

knowing the power of remedies, nor the obſtinate reſiſting nature of cancers, differences of tumors in the breaſts, nor whether they be truly cancerous or not, confidently and erroneouſly proclaim cures that were never performed, introduce inſignificant or injurious compoſitions, and prevent the moſt rational rules in the art from being adopted: thus patients fall victims to their own unthinking credulity; thus the only time in which judicious medicine might prove beneficial, is unfortunately loſt in ſuperſtitious expectation, or blind error.

The hiſtory of medicine abounds with inſtances of various deceptions of pretenders to the cure of cancers by *ſecret* methods. Though the very appearance of *myſtery* ought to *awaken ſuſpicion*, though the boldneſs of the deluders, the raſhneſs of their boaſtings, their intereſted views, their complaints of being perſecuted by the regular faculty, or their confident aſſertions that ſome eminent man or other has offered a large ſum for their ſecret or noſtrum, ſhould induce mankind to be on their guard, yet cancerous patients, otherwiſe with good underſtandings, become the

the moſt egregious dupes to the various ſnares and artifices of low cunning and unſkilfulneſs.

Other patients apply to theſe pretenders, who have ſome little hardneſs or ſwelling in the breaſt, from cold, accident, or other cauſe: if a caſe or two of this ſort be cured, they are magnified into the name of *terrible cancers*; the exaggerated circumſtances are publiſhed by every ſtratagem artifice can ſuggeſt; perſons laboring under real cancerous complaints are ferrited out, the hiſtory related, the perſon ſuppoſed to be cured produced, the appearance of ſomething like a fact has weight, and the deluſion ſucceeds.

If any medical man of ſtrict honor and learning in the profeſſion ſhould examine the ſubject with candor, diſcover the deception, and pronounce a report ſtrictly conformable to truth, it has little weight; for when *truth* does not flatter unreaſonable expectations, it is coolly received. In cancerous caſes, patients, and often their relations, eagerly embrace, and vehemently protect, thoſe who deceive them moſt; the reaſon of which is obvious.

Phyſicians

Phyſicians or ſurgeons of probity, on being conſulted in cancerous caſes, well knowing the difficulty the art has to ſurmount in curing ſome, and the abſolute impoſſibility of curing others, are cautious in promiſing: an honeſt, ſkilful, and experienced man cannot promiſe ſucceſs in theſe caſes. The experience of the moſt learned practitioners for above two thouſand years, the obſervations and communications of contemporaries, and his own practice, if extenſive, obliges him, as a man deſerving the public confidence, to declare honorably his ſentiments, and what he has treaſured up by repeated experience; the unpleaſing truth being delivered, it may not be ſo favorable as the patient or affectionate friends expect. To a humane practitioner nothing can be more ungrateful to the feelings than to pronounce a foreſight of painful future evils, and the impoſſibility of averting them; but no juſt or ſenſible man will, for the ſake of a temporary preſent advantage, riſk his future reputation by acting with duplicity or falſehood.

It is a great happineſs to even palliate and mitigate evils, when no radical cure can rationally

nally be expected: this judicious medicine may effect many years, even in ſeveral cancerous diſeaſes.

The aſcendancy which pretenders to the cure of the cancer acquire, is obtained by two means—dependent on the patient's hope and fear. The cautious promiſes of the regular practitioners, and the prudent reſerve they commonly practiſe, do not give that comfort nor happineſs which the confident and raſh boaſtings of empiriciſm inſpire. The man who pretends to a *ſecret* has every advantage —people *love the marvellous*, and *believe moſt* what they *underſtand leaſt*. He promiſes a cure boldly, leads the patient by artifices into an entire faith in his flattering pretenſions, uſes menaces or ſoothing according to circumſtances: ſometimes he will alarm the patient with a threat to relinquiſh his attendance if ſhe dares to ſhew the ſtate of the breaſt, remove his dreſſings, or conſult any other perſon; at others, he will be all obſequiouſneſs, humanity, gentleneſs, and daily affirm the caſe is getting better, even to the laſt moment of the patient's life. If any untoward ſymptoms appear, he will

aſſume

aſſume a grave face, and attribute it to ſome irregularity in the patient, the winds, or weather: if the ſymptoms are mitigated, then his *ſecret* remedies are laviſhly praiſed, as producing theſe temporary good effects. In this manner, exciting alternately *hope* and *fear*, preventing the patient from conſulting men of character by various ſtratagems and deep-laid artifices, have I ſeen ſeveral valuable lives ſacrificed at the ſhrine of ignorance, impudence, and impoſture.

Neither reaſoning nor medical ſkill, however cultivated; neither probity nor the moſt excellent advice, neither detection nor expoſure of the deluſion, will avail: the infatuation of an expected cure, and the falſe reports of the diſeaſe being daily better, operate againſt all reflection, reaſon, or common ſenſe: every expreſſion of doubt is conſidered envious and inimical to the operator; every propoſal to examine the caſe is oppoſed by the artifices of the deluder; every flattering falſehood is received with eagerneſs and rapture. Nothing but the lingering and miſerable death of the unfortunate patient can convince the friends of their

error: it is then, and then only, that affectionate relations diſcover themſelves to have been acceſſary to the deſtruction of a deceaſed friend; it is then they perceive that their ill-timed, though well-intentioned, officiouſneſs, has been productive of inexpreſſible calamity.

This deſcription of the arts of ſeduction, practiſed by pretenders to the cure of cancers, and the eaſy, unthinking confidence of the ſeduced, are founded in a number of facts which have fallen under my own immediate obſervation in a full practice of thirty years; they likewiſe correſpond exactly with the obſervations of many other practitioners in the medical profeſſion, both ancient and modern.

The detection of ignorance, or artful pretenſions to the cure of cancerous diſeaſes by *ſecrets*, is not difficult to thoſe who are perfectly acquainted with the preſent improved ſtate of medical ſcience. Impoſtors can only paſs for men of ſkill, amongſt perſons of no learning or experience in the art of medicine. If the following, or ſimilar interrogatories, were propoſed to the daring intruders of deception,

ception, their anſwers would at once detect their ſkill: their ſilence, or a pre-determination not to open any part of the intended operations of their aſſumed diſcoveries, or, in ſhort, any appearance of myſtery, ought to awaken ſuſpicion, and ſuſpicion would prevent deluſion.

1. What is the definition of a cancer, either occult or manifeſt, as they have been called?

2. At what periods of life do cancers appear, and in what conſiſts the difference between the tumors ariſing from inflammation, milk, blows, cancerous diſpoſition, &c.?

3. What is the anatomical ſtructure of the breaſts, and, according to various cauſes and ſymptoms, what part of the ſtructure of the breaſt is diſeaſed?

4. Whether the caſe be curable, doubtful, tedious, or incurable, with the anatomical, phyſiological, or experimental reaſons from paſt obſervation?

5. On what grounds or principles is the caſe curable, by reſolution, ſuppuration, removal of tumor, ulcer, &c.?

6. Are

6. Are all the parts ſo deeply affected as to preclude all hopes of reſolution, or not?

7. What are the conſequences if the tumor be not reſolvable?

8. Is the diſorder likely to remain in the ſame ſtate for years, or is there a probability of tumor or tumors, ulcer or ulcers, increaſing?

9. Whether the tumor be likely to enlarge from fluids being brought by the arteries, and not abſorbed or returned by the ſanguiferous veins, lymphatics, &c., or from what other rational cauſes?

10. Whether the tumor be likely to become ulcerous ſoon, or at ſome diſtant period, and whether it will be mild, or very corroſive, fetid, and deſtructive to the parts?

11. Whether, according to the common received principles of ſurgery, and the obſervations of honeſt writers, ancient and modern, the ſwelling or diſeaſed part ſhould be cut out, and what are the probable conſequences?

12. What are the principal objections to operating on the breaſts, and by what ſcientific means can it be diſcovered, that the cancerous

cancerous acrimony has contaminated the fluids or glandular ſtructure in other parts of the body?

13. Whether, amidſt the many ſymptoms which accompany cancerous complaints, a complete ſkill in the ſcience and uſe of medicine is not neceſſary; and whether the internal treatment of hectic fever, nervous affections, vomitings, purgings, colliquative perſpirations, and a variety of other ſymptoms, ſhould be attempted by any perſon ignorant, or but little acquainted with diſeaſes, the power of medicines, &c., wherein the moſt conſummate ſkill is required?

14. Is it rational to ſuppoſe that any external applications can remedy the evils attendant on cancerous caſes, when it is plain the diſeaſe is not local, but *diffuſed* frequently through the whole *lymphatic ſyſtem*; and whether in ſuch caſes a ſkilful phyſician is not neceſſary, not only to judge of the probable conſequences of external applications, whether deterſive, repellent, emollient, ſuppurative, cauſtic, &c., but likewiſe to direct judiciouſly the internal treatment?

15. Whe-

15. Whether it be not impoſſible for any phyſician of probity to determine on the operation of ſecrets, but by their ſalutary or injurious effects; in which latter caſe, is it not often too late to remedy the miſchief by the moſt ſkilful advice?

To what purpoſe, it might be aſked, have the objections been advanced againſt *cutting* out the ſcirrhus or hardneſs; to the application of *arſenical* and other cauſtics to draw out the core, as it is vulgarly called; and to the fallacious pretenſions of ſecret remedies? The anſwer is, to prevent, if poſſible, future miſchief, future deluſion.

An examination of the hoſpital practice in *London*, *Paris*, *Lyons*, *Rome*, *Venice*, *Germany*, &c., have furniſhed me with the moſt indiſputable facts of the cruelty and often inutility of cutting out the ſcirrhus. In London I have been conſulted in many hundred caſes. There has been no ſurgeon of eminence for theſe laſt thirty years in this metropolis, whoſe operations on the breaſt, in the true cancer, have not, to my own knowledge, failed. In ſome few inſtances the diſorder, for a few months, or a year or two, has lain dormant, then

then it has broken out with redoubled violence; ulcerations and deſtructions of parts have ſucceeded each other, until the whole ſide of the thorax has become one continued, though uneven, fetid, corroſive ulcer; the corroſion of the cancer has deſtroyed all the ſofter parts, and in ſome inſtances the ribs themſelves have been laid bare; hectic fever, vomitings, purging, from abſorption and breathing in putrid exhalations, excruciating tortures long continued, until the exhauſted patient, ſinking under ſuch a complicated train of miſery, becomes ſleepy, and expires. Surgeons, who have unſucceſsfully operated, are ſeldom conſulted when the diſeaſe returns; therefore often think the cure is completed, though it relapſes.

This has happened in younger and older ſubjects, where the operation has been performed, or cauſtic matter applied, in caſes that ſeemed favourable for the knife, in others unfavourable: ſuch is the doubtfulneſs of the operation. If examples were neceſſary, I could produce ſeveral that muſt ſtrike the moſt obdurate heart with horror,

and

and convince ſurgeons how cautiouſly they ſhould undertake the amputation of the ſcirrhous or cancerous breaſt, leſt they add to human miſery, what might, by a milder treatment, be avoided.

As to hemlock curing the cancer, I deny it from the moſt poſitive proofs, and from the trueſt intelligence I could obtain at *Vienna*, and moſt other hoſpitals in Europe.

From all which I infer, that cancerous complaints, happening after the ceſſation of the menſes, unleſs recent and judiciouſly treated with alteratives and neutral ſaline remedies, are very doubtful of cure, and often degenerate into the manifeſt cancerous ulcer.

The *firſt ſtage* of the diſorder, in which the veſſels are only diſtended, is ſometimes curable, but not always.

The *ſecond ſtage*, in which the ſanguiferous veſſels and lymphatics are affected, the cure is more tedious and difficult, if even curable; but by proper management the diſorder may be prevented ſometimes from increaſing.

The *third ſtage*, in which the ſanguiferous veſſels, lymphatics, lactiferous tubes, and the *oleaginous particles* or *adeps* are *coagulated* in

in the cells of the cellular ſtructure of the breaſt, and have become one confuſed hard maſs, no cure by reſolution, cutting, or cauſtic, can be rationally expected; for though ſymptoms are frequently mitigated, yet this ſtage always terminates in death.

The *fourth ſtage*, in which the third ſtage breaks forth into an open cancerous ulcer, in ſome caſes, by ſkilful management, the patient may live many years; but they are oftener deſtroyed by raſhneſs and violent remedies: in other inſtances no art whatever avails, and the ulcer continually increaſing, the patient moſt commonly dies either in extreme hot or cold weather.

On reflecting on the whole of the circumſtances attending tumors of the breaſt, whether cancerous or not, the ſubſequent advice is the reſult.

1. In all tumors of the breaſt, if a long-continued courſe of mineral alteratives for a year or two, and the external applications already recommended, ſhould not avail, it is beſt, in many caſes, to remain quiet, obſerving a proper regimen, and occaſionlly taking ſome neutral ſalts, gentle laxatives, &c. By theſe means the

the cancerous complaint has been tolerable many years; on the contrary, when the diſorder has been diſturbed by the impatience of the patient or friends, the ſymptoms have *increaſed rapidly, and ended fatally.*

2. All operations, except in very urgent or particular favourable caſes, ſhould be avoided.

3. In the ulcerated ſtage it is always moſt judicious to uſe the mildeſt applications, and obſerve great cleanlineſs. This often requires the ſkilful management of the ſurgeon. I have known inſtances of perſons living *many years* with cancerous ulcers, when treated *mildly*; but I have never ſeen an inſtance wherein *violent methods* were adopted, that the diſeaſe did not rapidly increaſe, and ſoon terminate in the deſtruction of the patient.

I have here communicated, without reſerve, the reſult of much reflection and anatomical inquiry, and have delivered concluſions from a multitude of facts and long experience in practice. It were to be wiſhed that the hiſtory of the cancerous tumors or ulcers were more favourable; but is is neceſſary to deliver the poſitive truth, eſpecially

in cases wherein there has appeared so much imposition and delusion. It is hoped that other practitioners will avail themselves, as some have, of these and former hints, and improve the treatment. A consciousness alone of performing the duties of the profession, in wresting cancerous patients from the hands of cruel and superficial empirics, can alone induce regular practitioners to sedulously attend these deplorable diseases, and afford those comforts which science and reason may recommend.

On CANCEROUS AFFECTIONS *of various Parts.*

PARTICULARLY OF THE

EYELIDS,
EAR,
NOSE,
LIPS,
GUMS,
TONSIL GLANDS,
MOUTH,
FAUCES,
TONGUE,
AXILLA,
GROINS, AND
EXTERNAL GENITAL PARTS.

THE common and received definition of cancers, in moſt authors, is very erroneous. *Home*, in his *Principia Medicinæ*, imitating others, ſays, *Quando ſcirrhus degenerat in tumorem inequalem, lividam, lancinantem cum vaſis circumcirca varicoſis, carcinoma vel cancer appellatur.* To this definition, or a ſmall deſcription, have all the ancients and moderns agreed, as may be ſeen by conſulting their works. Any experienced ſurgeon or phyſician, who had obſerved a number of cancerous affections, would immediately exclaim,

there are many cancer-tending ſcirrhous tumors and cancerous ulcers, without *inequality* or *lividneſs*, without *ſurrounding varicous veſſels*; therefore the received definition is fallacious. The diſorder is well known by the experienced from its appearance, ſituation, malignant tendency, and, if ulcerated, by its peculiar fetid ſmell, which cannot be defined, as likewiſe by its ſlow corroding effects, not always attended with pain, though ſometimes inſufferable and excruciating; therefore I ſhould define a ſcirrhous, painful tumor of the lymphatic or glandular ſyſtem, which does not ſuppurate like an abſceſs, but continues long, and at laſt degenerates into a very *fetid corroding* ulcer, deſtroying the tumor itſelf, and ſometimes the adjacent parts, to be a cancerous ulcer; numbers of which are never attended with varicous veins, unequal ſurfaces, nor a livid color.

There are three *genera* of cancerous affections of other parts: the firſt, *cancer-tending* tubercles, or ſmooth calloſities; the ſecond, ſcirrhous tumors of the glands; and the third, corroding cancerous ulcers; the ſpecies of

which, with regard to ſize, extenſion, figure, color, or malignity, are numerous.

Tubercles and cancer-tending calloſities appear in many parts of the eyelids, noſe, lobes of the ears, cheeks, upper and under lips; on the tongue and internal parts of the mouth, gums, palate, axilla, genitals, about the *rectum*, &c.

Tubercles are hard ſmall ſwellings riſing above the ſkin, about the ſize of peaſe, of different colors, according as the parts affected are more or leſs vaſcular; from which cauſe they appear pale, or approaching to a red or purple color.

Calloſities are hardneſſes of the adeps immediately under the ſkin, from the coagulation of the adeps or coagulable lymph, and have frequently ſmooth equal ſurfaces.

They are nominated warts, excreſcences, indurations, ſmall carbuncles, &c., and often appear the forerunners of cancerous ulcers in acrimonious or cacochymical habits; they are to be diſtinguiſhed from thoſe excreſcences or tumors which appear early in life, and continue unto death without malignity or any bad effects.

The

The tubercles that have a cancerous tendency ſeldom appear early in life, but gradually ariſe without any previous manifeſt cauſe; ſometimes they are painful, in other inſtances not; but by bad management they have rapidly degenerated into cancerous ulcers, become painful, and have ended fatally. This has happened in the noſe, and many other parts.

The *cure* of the tubercles requires two methods of treatment.

The *mildeſt* treatment is attempting their reſolution by fomentations, reſolving applications, a dry diet, and mineral alteratives, given at proper diſtances of time.

The *radical* treatment is the removal of the tubercle or tubercles, by applying the *fuming pure nitrous acid*.

The *reſolution* may be attempted, when they be recent, by fomenting the parts with a weak ſolution of *crude ſal ammoniac*, *fumigations of cinnabar*, and by *bleeding*. *Purging* and *antiphlogiſtic remedies* are likewiſe uſeful, mineral alteratives, &c.

If theſe remedies ſhould not ſucceed in removing the tubercles, and there be reaſon to conclude

conclude them of a malignant, cancerous tendency, the deſtruction of the tubercle or tubercles is the moſt effectual method of preventing the cancer and all its terrible ravages; for if neglected, when recent, they ſometimes deſtroy the noſe, the whole face, throat, ſcrotum and teſticles, perinæum, vagina, or rectum, according to the part they fix on, not in a few days, but after many years dreadful torments.

The common cauſtics, and even the arſenical preparation of *Plunket*, are too apt to aggravate the diſorder, though, in ſome few inſtances, they have ſucceeded. Extirpation by the knife ſeldom eradicates the cancer-tending tumor or callofity: the ſeeds of the diſeaſe, I am certain, are in the conſtitution, the diſorder is not local, as ſome have imagined. Without removing cauſes, effects will not ceaſe: hence the neceſſity of internal correctors of the acrimony. *Mercury alone aggravates* the diſeaſe; but joined with *antimonial ſulphurs* is uſeful.

The cure of the Tubercles by the fuming nitrous Acid.

Dip the point of a pen, or lint twiſted round a wooden ſkewer, into the *fuming nitrous acid*, and make a *mark* all round the baſis of the tubercles, ſo as to circumſcribe the whole induration.

This operation is to be repeated every or every other day, until a ſeparation of the ſound from the diſeaſed part be evident.

This mode of treatment was my invention: it is attended with little or no pain, and is often ſucceſsful.

Care muſt be taken not to ſuffer the *effects* of the *acid ſpirit* to extend beyond the limits of the ſmall tumor or tubercles, which is eaſily effected by immediately and repeatedly drying the part touched with lint.

In this manner I have ſometimes ſafely removed tubercles, calloſities, and ſcirrhous tumors, of a cancerous tendency, in the

Breaſts,
Eyelids,
Cheeks,

Noſe,

Noſe,
Lips,
Mouth,
Genital parts,
About the rectum, &c.

After the tubercle or tubercles are entirely deſtroyed, which muſt be done gradually, the ulcerated part may be dreſſed with the precipitate digeſtive, or any other, and waſhed before each dreſſing with a ſolution of the corroſive ſublimate.

When the little ulceration formed by the eſchar is cleanſed or deterged, the cure may be finiſhed by common dreſſings, whilſt *mineral alteratives* ſhould be given internally, according to circumſtances.

In ſcirrhous, cancer-tending tumors of the tonſil glands, gums, &c., all other methods ſhould be firſt tried; but if danger of ſuffocation ariſe, the tonſil glands, if impoſſible to extirpate with the ligature, as when the baſe and upper ſurface are equal in extenſion, then, to ſave life, it is juſtifiable to deſtroy the tumor with the *fuming ſpirit of nitre*, by touching the part, and immediately abſorbing the fluid on the part touched by dry lint

on

on a ſkewer, leſt the corroſive ſhould injure any of the adjacent parts of the fauces, &c.; in which operations the moſt exquiſite judgment, ſteadineſs, and caution ſhould be employed.

On the Tubercles or Indurations becoming cancerous Ulcers.

When the tubercles have been neglected or improperly treated, they may become cancerous ulcers.

A cancerous ulcer gradually increaſes in ſize by its corroſive acrimony, ſlower than other ulcers, but more certainly deſtructive in its conſequences.

It differs from all other ulcers, becauſe it is more fetid, and attacks glandular or very vaſcular parts, as the lips, cheeks, &c., and is commonly, though not always, preceded by indurations or tubercles.

Prognoſtic.

All theſe ulcers, whether in the Eyelids,

Noſe,

Noſe,
Lips,
Gums,
Tonſil glands,
Tongue,
Axilla,
Groins,
Genital parts,
Rectum,
Anus, &c.

are very difficult and tedious of cure; but many inſtances have yielded to *alterative remedies*, already recommended.

The Mode of Treatment.

The callous edges of the ulcer muſt be removed by the nitrous acid.

The ulcers may be cleanſed by the uſe of cinnabarine fumigations once a day, ſolutions of *mercurius corroſivus ſublimatus*, and camphor: or by the precipitate digeſtive, if not in the mouth.

Internally, all the *metallic alteratives* and ſaline medicines recommended in the cure of ulcers of the legs and other parts, cancers of the breaſts,

breaſts, womb, &c., are particularly uſeful, when given at proper diſtances, in removing the cancerous acrimony, if mildly and judiciouſly adminiſtered, according to the magnitude of the diſorder, the ſtrength, age, ſex, peculiarities of each patient, climate, ſeaſons of the year, rational indications, and contra-indications. Without the knowledge and juſt application of remedies, and implicit obedience in patients, medicine in cancerous and many other diſorders, inſtead of being efficacious, may frequently become injurious.

The *cancerous ulcers* of the tongue, noſe, and other parts, have been actually cured at the *Mary-le-bone infirmary* by *fumigations* of *cinnabar*, and by the following pill, which is the laſt improvement I made in medicines of the alterative mineral claſs, called *pilulæ fortiſſimæ* in the infirmary *formulæ*.

℞. Hydrargyri vitriolat. ʒſs.
Sulph. antimon. præcipitat ʒiſs. tere ſimul per xij. horas.
℞. Hujus pulveris ʒſs.
Conf. cynoſbat. q. ſ. f. pilulæ No. xxx. quarum capiat bis vel ter de die.

Though

Though the foregoing Treatiſe freely animadverts, and even cenſures many dangerous, cruel, ſuperſtitious, and ignorant methods of treating cancerous affections, yet, in order to exhibit to view what hath been attempted in theſe truly melancholy complaints, the ſubſequent extracts, from the principal ancient and modern authors, have been ſelected. The learned reader will perceive that the modes of treatment I have adopted and communicated are new; *and if they ſnatch now and then an unfortunate victim from death, or even palliate the ſymptoms of the incurable, it will not only requite the author for his unremitting reſearches, but perhaps point out the paths to other abler practitioners, and promote a ſpirit of emulation for the accompliſhing future improvements.*

Celſus de Medicina, l. v. cap. 28. p. 317.

De Carcinomate.

Non idem periculum carcinoma affert, uti carbunculus, niſi imprudentia curantis agitatum eſt.

Carcinomata curationibus irritantur.

Quidam ferro aduſſerunt: quidam ſcalpello exciderunt.

Neque ulli unquam medicina profluit: ſed aduſta protinus concitata ſunt & increverunt, donec occiderent.

Exciſa etiam poſt inductam cicatricem, tamen reverterunt, & cauſam mortis attulerunt.

Cum interim plerique nullam vim adhibendo, qua tollere id malum tentent; ſed imponendo tantum lenia medicamenta, quæ quaſi blandiantur, quo minus ad ultimam ſenectutem perveniant, non prohibeantur.

Diſcernere autem cacoëthes, quod curationem recipit, nemo ſcire poteſt, niſi tempore & experimento.

Ergo ubi primum id vitium notatum eſt, imponi debent medicamenta adurentia.

Si levatur malum minuunturque ejus indicia, procedere curatio poteſt & ad ſcalpellum & ad uſtionem.

Si

Si protinus irritatum eſt, ſcire licet, jam carcinoma eſſe; removendaque ſunt omnia acria, omnia vehementia.

Gorræus, Definit. 291.

Καρκίνος, cancer eſt tumor malignus aſpectu teter.

Tumor iſte & prominet & tactui renititur, atque ubi ſemel radices egerit, difficillime avelli tollique poteſt.

Eſt enim malignus, ferus, protervus, & quem curatio manuumque vel blandiſſima tractatio efferare potius quam mitificare ſolet.

Gordonii lilium Medicinæ de Cancro.

Cancer a principio difficilis cognitionis eſt valde.

Cancer autem eſt recens & tunc eſt curabilis, aut eſt antiquus, qui non curatur.

Pareus, ex *Uffenbachii*, collect. 162.

Scirrhus illegitimus, indolens omnino & inſenſibilis, itemque cancroſus nullam admittit curationem: verus autem & legitimus vix ullam.

Efferatur cancer alimentis ſanguinem inflammantibus, animi perturbationibus, vix, æſtu & actioribus medicamentis oleoſis & emplaſtricis, nec jure nec loco appoſitis.

Omnis cancer cenſetur ferme incurabilis, vel curatu valde contumax: eſt enim morbi toto genere malignus.

Ne efferentur aut ſerpant longius lenibus remediis & cura, quam palliativum dicunt, erit procurandum, ſic enim multi cancro laborantes ad extremam uſque ſenectutem pervenerunt.

Incipiens cancer ſæpe incrementis prohibetur; ubi vero ſemel increverit, niſi ferro curationem non admittit, ut qui malignitate & contumacia ſua medicamentorum omnium vires aſpernetur.

Cancer ulceratus eſt ulceris genus malignum, rebelle, intractabile, ut qui mitia medicamenta aſpernetur, acribus autem & fortibus amplius efferatur.

Pareus, l. xxiii. cap. 41. de uteri procidentia—uteri putridi excifio. Si præſcriptis remediis reſtitui nequeat uterus, & ulceratus computruerit, jubemur veterum præſcripto illum amputare.

Viſa

Viſæ ſunt permultæ mulieres, quibus totus ferme uterus exciſſus fuerat, nullo vitæ diſpendio, quemadmodum teſtatur Paulus.—The leaſt ſcratch on the mouth of the uterus has proved commonly fatal: the uterus itſelf cannot be meant, the clitoris, or ſome part of the vagina ſhould be underſtood. What operator would undertake to diſſect the uterus of a living perſon? Horrid! frightfully horrid! to reflect on.

Joh. Langius ſcribit, Ep. Med. l. ii. ep. 39. ſe præſente chirurgum carpum mulieri Bononienſi uterum extirpaſſe ipſa ſuperſtite & incolumi.

A° 1573. Procidentia ab antimonio hauſto.

A° 1573. Vocatus *Pareus*, *Guillemeau*, & *De Vieux*, communi conſilio cenſuimus, id quod prociderat, extirpandum eſſe: per duos dies ſine dolore corpus extraximus, quod a 4 medicis & nobis uteri corpus eſſe viſum eſt.

Cujus rei fidem fecere unus ex teſticulis, qui integer extractus eſt, craſſior item membrana, reliqua ex mola, quæ ſuppurata rupto abſceſſu ſenſim influxerat, &c.

Totum trimeſtre ſana & egregie incolumis mulier ſupervixit, donec ſuborta repente pleuritide interiit.

Diſſectæ a me & ſedulo ſingula exquirente nuſquam comparuit uterus ſed ejus loco calloſum quoddam corpus, quod natura, quæ nunquam in nobis otiatur, jacturam ejus partis quaſi reparatura, vel lacunam potius alvi repletura, ſubſtituerat.

Tagaultius in Inſtitutionibus Chirurgicis de Tumore præternaturam.

Cancer, ſeu *carcinoma*, a toto genere eſt morbus gravis & pernicioſus. Vix enim unquam propter ſucci craſſitiem conſaneſcit, utpote quod nec repelli nec diſcuti queat, nec totius corporis purgationi cedat.

Sed & tanta ejus eſt malignitas, ut mitiora plane contemnat remedia, vehementioribus vero, veluti carbo irritetur, excandeſcatque atque efferatur.

Cæterum ex canero non ulcerato non raro fit ulceratus, putreſcente ſcilicet ſpatio temporis humore, in vaſis deliteſcente, vel irritato a medicamentis inconſulte admotis affectu.

Hunc

Hunc autem exulceratum cancrum peſſimum eſſe judicant omnes & veræ curationi prorſus ineptum: hic enim ad perfectam atque abſolutam ſui curationem mordentia, aſpera atque vehementia deſideraret medicamenta.

Atqui ut diximus talibus magis irritatur, efferaturque, tantum abeſt, ut ſub iis miteſcat vel conſeneſcat.

Proinde ſatis fuerit ſi cancros non ulceratos prohibeamus augeri, a perfecta quidem curatione manum ſubtrahentes.

Tagaultius 811, inter remedia recenſet arſenicum ſublimatum, ut præſtantiſſimum ac tutiſſimum auxilium in hoc affectu a Guidone de Cauliaco uſitatum. The *arſenic* has been lately uſed with dreadful conſequences.

Platerus, in Praxi, l. ii. 567.

De cancro uteri; per podicem erumpiſſe, in veſicam & abdomen perveniſſe.

Totum uterum computruiſſe & exemptum fuiſſe, cognovimus.

Uſu medicamentorum acrium, uteri cervix erodi vel exulcerari: ſicuti ſiniſtro horum uſu cervicem uteri ulceratam, tandem computruiſſe penitus, ſupervivente nihilominus diu poſtea adhuc muliere obſervavimus.

In gravidis fœtus mortuus putreſcens retentus, uterum inficit, corrumpitque, ſicuti hoc in duabus mulieribus factum ſpectavimus.

Fœtum cum involucris & utero vicinoque peritonæo corruptis penitus, ſectione in abdomine facta exemptum fuiſſe, quod in una vivâ adhuc & diu poſtea ſuperſtite manente fieri videmus, & ex alia mortua nos ipſi hoc modo eximus.

Cancer uteri cervicis, quia ab initio dolorem aut impedimentum non magnum affert, aut quia non cognoſcitur cum negligatur, plerumque adauctus et confirmatus curari amplius nequit, neque in eo loco abdito commode aut ſine periculo amputari poteſt.

Uterus

Uterus exulceratus tandem lethalis plerumque fit.

Ne tamen augeatur cura palliativa adhibetur.

Revulſiones per venæſectionem in poplite, purgatione convenienti, vires reſtaurantibus, topicis ſiccantibus, digerentibus, &c.

Ulcera in uteri ſinu & pudendo omnia perverſa ob loci teneritatem & humiditatem ſunt: adeo ut levis excoriatio, diligentiam ut ſanetur, requirat.

Deteriora adhuc ſunt depaſcentia & phagedænica, quæ ſi diu perſeveraverint & profundas radices egerint, ſpatiumque amplum occupaverint, incurabilia fere ſunt, uti & carcinomata, quæ mortem plerumque veluti & alia, corruptionem efferunt, quæ aliquando totum uterum depopulantur.

Exempla contagii ſe vidiſſe.

Prognoſtica in genere, ſi primum inceperit & adhuc exiguus ſit, nec negligatur, ipſius incrementum difficulter impediri, ſi adauctus ſit, ægerrime, & ſi ad ſummum pervenerit, nunquam curari poſſe, & ſi exulceratus ſit, eum, niſi poſſit integer funditus extirpari, etſi longo tempore perdurare poſſit lethalem eſſe.

Fernelius, Pathol. 420.

Uteri affectus ſunt, phlegmone, abſceſſus, ulcus, ſcirrhus, cancer, mola, inflatio, hydrops, calculus; in cervice rhagades, condylomata, hæmorrhoides, &c.

Nomæ, carcinomata cæteris ulceribus fœtidiores, ſordidiores, acerbioreſque.

Exulceratum carcinoma, nomis malignius eſt.

Cancer benignus, niſi irritatus, diu citra perniciem conſiſtit.

Malignus coërceri vix poteſt, quin fiat cancer exulceratus, niſi malignitate ocyus interimat, longe lateque prorepit.

N. Piſo, de Morbis cognoſcendis & curandis, cap. 59. p. 140, de ſcirrho & cancro uteri dicit carcinoma uteri incurabile eſſe.

Fabricius Hildanus, obſerv. *Galenus* cancri curandi rationem duplicem ſtatuit, quarum prima perficitur medicamentis, humores atrabiliores expurgantibus.

Altera conſiſtit in extirpatione tumoris.

Quantum attinet ad primum, niſi ſtatim ab initio adminiſtrata fuerit, parum aut nihil ad ſanitatem poſſe, certum eſt: quandoquidem jam materia ita compacta atque indurata eſt, ut medicamentis purgantibus non cedat.

Altera via a *Galeno* præſcripta, eſt extirpatio tumoris: hanc nonnulli ferro candente, alii medicamentis erodentibus, reliqui cultro inciſorio perficiunt.

Cancer exulceratus adverſus quem medicamentis fruſtra pugnatur.

Ulcus cancroſum perquam malignum & immedicabile, aſſiduo erodens imas partes affectas, nec ſiſti poteſt.

In conſilio ſuo ad cancrum oculi, bene notat: quoad reſolventia, cum tumor ſit duriſſimus, credibile eſt nullo reſolutum iri medicamento, niſi prius emolliatur. At vero præterquam quod hujuſmodi prædura materia, tamdiu, (quindecim videlicet annis) congeſta amolliri nequit periculum eſt ne ex iſto emollientium uſu tumor ſubito contrahat ſummam malitiam.

Erodentia mihi perquam periculoſa cenſentur. Nam cum prominens hic tumor duriſſimus ſit, credibile eſt benigna medicamenta irrita futura: quin potius ut ſumma durities adeſt, ſic vehemens requiritur medicatio, quæ vi ſeptiorum & eſcharoticorum fieri ſolet.

At vero ut lenibus non afficitur cancer, ſæviſſimum malum, ſic irritatur & ingraveſcit vel tantillum acribus & vellicantibus ut ante expertus eſt æger.

Riverius, Prax. Med. l. xv. 247.

De prognoſi hoc tantum pronuntiare licet, cancrum eſſe incurabilem, ſive ulceratum, ſive non ulceratum ſit. Quodquidem ut de omni cancro etiam partes externas obſidente verum eſt; ſic potiori jure de eo qui uterum occupat ſentiendum eſt, ob continuam ſuperfluitatum illuviem quæ ad eam partem decurrit.

Cum igitur curatio integra ſperabilis non ſit, ad alteram quæ palliativa dicitur, confugiendum eſt.

Eaque

Eaque eo dirigenda, ut cancri non ulcerati ulceratio prohibeatur, & ne ulceratus majus incrementum ſuſcipiat: & in utroque doloris atrocitas temperetur.

Quod fiet ad immaniſſimos dolores placandos, cogemur ad narcotica recurrere.

Ettmuller.

Cancer eſt tumor plane ſingularis ac omnino ſui generis.

Opera danda eſt ne exulceretur cancer, poſtquam enim cutis diſrupta fuerit, certo certius hominem miſerrime interimit.

Per acrimoniam humoris cauſticam, vaſa nervoſa & ſanguifera deſtruendo & erodendo, unde ichoris copioſa effuſio cum vitæ fere diſpendio, hæmorrhagiæ frequentes & profuſæ plerumque agmen claudunt & mortem optatam accelerant.

Cancer exulceratus vix ac ne vix quidem curatur.

Dionis, Operat. de Chirurgie des Deſcentes & Chutes,

L'extirpation de la matrice eſt trop hazardeuſe, & la croit mortelle. This is certainly true.

Il y a des auteurs, qui aſſurent d'avoir vu des femmes, qui en ont gueri.

M. *Morand,* a conſeillé la ligature.

Le cancer eſt le plus horrible de tous les maux, qui mene ſurement mais lentement au tombeau.

Il n'y a point de maladie plus affligeante au malade: il n'y a point auſſi, qui fatigue plus le chirurgien, & qui lui donne plus de peine, parceque ce mal eſt preſque toujours incurable.

De tels maux, il n'en faut attendre que la mort.

La mère de Louis XIV. Roi de France, avoit un cancer à la mamelle, tous les chirurgiens & médicins étoient encouragés d'offrir des ſecours, mais ſans aucun ſuccès.

Il donne le precis des trois médecins de la Reine, leurs ſentimens & le traitement.

Ces médecins étoient M. *Gendron, Alliot, Helvetius,* chacun publia une eſſaye ſur cette maladie.

Barbette.

A ſphacelus of the womb is incurable; for what the ancients relate concerning the extirpation of the womb, to wit, that it may be taken out without great danger, is to be reckoned among their errors.—No *doubt.*

The extended tunicæ vaginæ may be taken away.

Wiſeman's Surgery.

A ſcirrhous cancer, by ill-handling or increaſe of acrimony, frequently terminates in raging cancers, and torments the patient with exquiſite darting pains.

Of all diſeaſes which afflict mankind, the cancer is the moſt grievous and rebellious, and is generally incurable, by reaſon of its corroſive and malign venom fermenting in the humors, which, ſo far as we can yet find, yields neither to purging, bleeding, repellents, diſcutients, ſuppuratives, or any other medicine inward or outward.

A cancerous breaſt, from internal cauſes, ſhould never be cut off.

After having given eighteen caſes of operations, he finiſhes his treatiſe with a very ſenſible remark—"Theſe unſucceſsful "attempts may render us extreme cruel to thoſe who feel not "the miſery theſe poor creatures ſuffer with cancers in their "mouths;" whereof he makes a moſt pathetic and very melancholy deſcription, and concludes thus—"What I have attempted of this kind has been at the earneſt requeſt of the patients "and their friends, and by the authority of a conſultation of "eminent phyſicians and ſurgeons. That the cure ſucceeded "not, muſt be imputed to the greatneſs of the diſeaſe, and may "teach others how dangerous it is to neglect the conſulting the "experienced ſurgeon, while the diſeaſe is recent and eaſy to be "eradicated."

F. Hoff-

F. Hoffman, Med. Rat.

Cancer exulceratus cum tam facile perimat, cauſa eo potentior ad nocendum eſt, quo ſubtilioris indolis & majoris molis.

Eſt inſanabilis.

Boerhaave.

Contuſio quæ in cute nullius momenti eſſet, in glandula conglomerata ſcirrhum peſſimum producere.

Cancrum difficillime curari in fœmina melancholica.

Cheſelden.

It is a matter of diſpute among ſome ſurgeons, whether cancerous tumors ſhould ever be extirpated, or not, though it is certain none of theſe were ever cured without, and there have been many extirpated.

After having given an account of an operation, he ſays, "Some time after amputation, the wound looking ſordid, a "ſurgeon ſprinkled the wound with red precipitate, which "put the patient in a high ſalivation; upon which the breaſt "grew clean and healed, the patient recovered, and, con-"trary to all expectation, lived many years in good health.

"From this accident I learnt the uſefulneſs of ſalivating "after extirpating cancerous tumors, though nothing is more "hurtful before."

This practice I know to be very hazardous.

Turner, in his Surgery, calls it the moſt dreadful of all diſeaſes.

This diſeaſe is the moſt deplorable of all others, and the true *opprobrium chirurgorum.*

Being once come to break its coverings, the ſkin or other membranes inveſting, it ſooner diſpatches the miſerable patient,

tient, not only by its furious acrimony devouring and preying on the fleſh in ſome places, whilſt it ſpews out *fungi*, like the heads of *cauliflower*, in ſome others, and this with the utmoſt outrage to the ſpirits; but alſo from the vaſt gleet and hæmorrhage when it has eaten through the coats of the veſſels, and having nearly exhauſted the purple ſtream, in the midſt of *diſmal groans*, *excruciating pains*, *intolerable ſtench* and *putrefaction*, the miſerable creature finds releaſe *by death*, which had been a long time wiſhed for.

The beſt *prognoſtic* that can be made will be but very uncertain.

When the cancer is ulcerated, it is ſtill worſe than while it remains with the ſkin yet whole and ſound; worſe alſo in the mouth or throat, where the poor patient is often famiſhed or ſtarved to death, than in ſome other parts; worſe where great quantities of the blood is daily expended, than where no ſuch effuſion has yet happened; though wherever it appears, and however complicate, we find it ſufficient, ſooner or later, according to age, habit, and way of management, to *deſtroy the afflicted*.

We ſhould now haſten to the cure, if we knew of any the diſeaſe would admit.

We defy all *cancer quacks* to give one inſtance of a fixed or *true ulcerated cancer* that was ever cured by their management.

That all art (when it is arrived to any height) can do little more than *palliate*.

As for local medicaments, or external applications, where the cancer is not ulcerated, I have obſerved thoſe people generally fare beſt who *meddle with none at all*; a ſimple inoffenſive plaiſter in other caſes, by conſtipating the pores, here only increaſe the heat, and promote farther diſturbance.

A crazy elderly woman, incommoded with a prolapſus uteri, under a fit of melancholy, drew down the prolapſed body, and with

with the huſband's razor ſhe exciſed all within her reach. He hopes her cure may be accompliſhed.

Dr. *Turner* called this caſe *uteri cervicis abſciſſio.*

Nenter, Fundam, Medicina.

Prognoſis.

1. Cancros occultos melius eſt non curare, curati enim citius intereunt, non curati per longius tempus perdurant, Hipp. aphor. l. vi. § 38. exceptioni tamen locus adhuc eſt.

2. In primo ſtatim principio facilius curantur, quam ſi per aliquod tempus perſtitere, ubi rariſſime curari ſolent.

3. Cancros exulceratos non niſi per ſectionem, aut uſtionem curare novit medicina vulgaris.

4. Dantur tamen ſelecta & appropriata remedia, quibus abſque auxilio chirurgico uterque cancer tolli poteſt, ſicuti nuper demum cancrum labiorum exulceratum in viro & mammarum in fœmina ſexagenaria ſub noſtra medicatione feliciter curatum gaudemus adhuc dum.

5. Non radicitus extirpatus facillime repullulat.

6. Contingit aliquando, etiamſi mamma affecta cancro radicitus extirpetur, altera eodem malo afficiatur, imprimis ſi a cauſa interna originem ſuam ducat.

7. Cancri, ſi ſubjecta ad eoſdem recipiendos inveniunt, interdum ſunt contagioſi.

8. Quo *mitius* tractantur, *eo longius* perdurant & minus torquent ægros.

9. Quo acriora remedia applicantur eo magis putredo & dolores augeſcunt.

10. Etiamſi exquiſitiſſima remedia præſto ſint, mora tamen opus, donec malum extirpari poſſis.

11. Salivatio parum aut nihil.

Remedia laudat:

℞. Emetic. ſine pari Kortholti, interne.

℞. Cor-

℞. Corroſivum liquidum Kortholti, ejuſque balſamum vulnerarium.

Heiſter, Chirurg. 677. *de oris & labiorum Carcinomate.*

Ulcus cancroſum, vel depaſcens fœtidum in labiis ſæpe oritur ſine tumore prævio: unde acris eademque peſſimi odoris ſanies profluit, quæ non modo labium, ſed univerſam quoque faciem miſerum in modum erodit & plerumque labio inferiori inſidet.

Naſcitur miſerabile hoc vitium naſci ſolet a *peculiari quadam ſanguinis acrimonia*, quæ in ſpongioſis illis ac glandulofis partibus hæret atque inſpiſſatur.

Oriuntur a morſu, ictu, punctura, lapſu, contuſione, fiſſura a gelido ære, Hiberno tempore, dente acuto odontalgia.

Medicamenta in peſſimis his vitiis, parum & plerumque nihil proficiunt.

Ad proximas partes malum ſerpit, denudat maxillas, erodit collum & pectus, miſere tandem ſtrangulat hominem.

Heiſteri Comp. Practic. cap. xii. § 27. 263.

Ad obſtructiones ab humoribus viſcidis merito referuntur glandularum tumores, ſcirrhi & tandem carcinomata ſive cancroſi affectus, qui omnes ab obſtructione vaſorum, & præſertim in glandulis ab humoribus craſſis viſcidis, tanquam cauſa propinqua ſuam originem ducunt; quibus vero in *cancroſis affectibus peculiaribus & quaſi venenata acrimonia rodens*, cujus natura hactenus perſpici & curari nondum potuit accedit, qua dolores rodentes ſæpe vehementiſſimi & partium læſarum ac vicinarum eroſiones ſive ulcera concitantur.

Scirrhi medicamentis raro ac difficulter digeruntur & curantur.

Cancri vero vix unquam & rariſſime.

Ubi in tempore partes vitiatæ exciduntur, aliqua ſalutis ſpes ſupereſſe videtur: præſertim ſi medicamentis ſimul convenientibus,

tibus ſanguis corruptus expurgatur ac emendatur: id quod tamen quam difficillime obtinetur.

Hinc fit ut vitium priſtinum frequentiſſime, imo fere ſemper redeat.

Simulatque jam medicamenta reprimentia aut digerentia injiciuntur, quam celerrime malum increſcit, uſque adeo, ut ne vel integer quidem annus, qui ſine medicina fuit, tantum doloris ac tumoris incrementum adduxerit, quantum poſt adhibita medicamenta unicus menſis progignit.

Malum eſt peſſimum.

In prognoſi ita habet.

Anna Auſtriaca, Ludovici XIV. Galliarum regis mater, carcinoma in mamma contraxerat, omnes chirurgi excitati fuerunt, ut medicamentis eam ſanarent; nihil tamen quidquam conamina iſta omnia profecerunt.

Nullum adhuc dum ad inventum eſt medicamentum, a quo certam ſalutis ſpem petere liceat.

Cancri occulti ſatis diu ſine graviori moleſtia a robuſtis & temperanter viventibus ſuſtineri poſſunt.

Si irritantur illico peſſima mala ſuperveniunt.

Hoc malum vix ac ne vix quidem curationem recipere confirmant *Hippocrates, Celſus, Fabricius Hildanus*, aliique nobiliſſimi medici.

Prolapſus tunicæ vaginæ, pro vera uteri procidentia falſo habita, non niſi poſt mortem veritas inventa.

Permittit ſcarificationem in procidentia uteri, ligaturam funeſtam fuiſſe dicit.

Non uterum modo prolapſum ſine vitæ periculo exciſum quandoque eſſe, teſtibus Carpo & Paræo, l. xxiii. cap. 41.

Sed ipſas quoque mulieres iſtas utero licet deſtitutas & concipere, & in lucem edere fœtum aliquem potuiſſe, aliqui dixerunt.

De utero ablato negat Heiſterus, concedit vero de vagina prolapſa ac ablata.

Morgagni

Morgagni de Sedibus & Cauſis Morborum iii. 44.

J. B. Corteſius ſcite dixit:

Non ſequi ſemper, quod morbus cognitus illico curetur, idque præcipue ratione malignitatis ſuæ, cancri potiſſimum exemplo uſus, qui quamvis ab omnibus cognoſcatur, nihilo minus raro curatur, & ſane dicit ipſe Morgagni, vix nonnunquam accidit, ut felix undique ea curatio ſit.

Uterus an ſaltem nonnunquam, ſalva, & quomodo muliere, exciſus ſit, pag. 484. conceditur, exemplo à Sandenio adducto, in Diſſ.

Qui affirmant ſunt *G. W. Wedelius*, in Diſſ. de procidentia uteri.

Slevogtius, in Diſſ. Sandenii de prolapſu uteri, quæ mulier feliciter fuit reſtituta Jenæ. *Abr. Veterus*, Diſſ. de Sarcom. e pudendo muliebri.

Molinettus, in Diſſ. an. Path. "De tutiſſimam ſemper eſſe "expertam & adhibuiſſe pluries, dicit uteri amputandi rationem "in vetulis præſertim."

Ad hæc verba bene monet Morgagnus, ſuſpicionem erroris augere videtur perpetua illa curationis felicitas.

De Uteri Sectione, vid. Schenck, obſ. l. iv. fol. 712.

De Procidentia & ex Sectione non lethali E. N. Cur. Vol. I. obſ. 80. pag. 152.

Uteri prolapſus verus ac inverſio negari non poteſt, Com. litt. Nor. 1731. p. 312.

Ant. Storck, Archiater Viennenſis A° 1757, experimenta fecit cum *cicuta vulgari* ad ſcirrhoſos & cancroſos affectus, in libello ſuo de cicuta pluſquam viginti caſus felices adducit, & in capite iii. 103. hæc corollari facit.

1. Ex ſucco cicutæ lento igne inſpiſſato parari remedium maxime innocuum, quod in omni temperamento, ætate ſexus, &c. ad ſatis magnam doſim poteſt exhiberi.

2. Hoc

2. Hoc remedium nullam corporis actionem, ſecretionem aut excretionem turbat.

3. Agit modo inſenſibili nec alvum, nec vomitum, nec urinam, nec ſudorem movet.

4. Indurata & ſcirrhoſa in iis etiam caſibus reſolvit, ubi alia remedia maxime penetrantia nihili efficiunt. Eſt igitur remedium maxime reſolvens.

5. Quæ non reſolvit, ea plerumque ad benignam ſuppurationem redigit.

6. Cancro ponit limites.

7. Acre cancroſum emendat, fœtorem diſpellit.

8. Ichorem cancroſum in bonum pus convertit.

9. Sedat dolores.

10. Cancrum curat.

11. Ulcera alia inſanabilia ſanat.

12. Fiſtulas, ſinus, ad omnia alia remedia rebelles claudit, conſolidat.

13. Tumores œdematoſos uſu externo diſſipat.

14. Viſum, cataractâ nondum inveterâ, dentum quandoque reſtituit.

15. Incipientes cataractas aut ſolvit, aut earum progreſſum ſaltem impedit.

16. Phthiſicis non obeſſe, nec ſputa impedire, ſed ea potius promovere.

Ant. Storck, in ſecundo Libello de Cicuta, 1761, edito confirmat priora, ac in dedicatione ad Imperatricem ait:

Nunc poſſe diriſſimos morbos ſola cicuta levari, curari.

Multi nunc ſervantur ægri qui ſine hoc remedio interiiſſent.

Quo ſæpius cicutam ægris exhibeo, eo majorem ſemper in hac planta virtutem & efficaciam admiror.

In capite ſecundo hujus libelli deſcribit 37 caſus ægrorum quos cicuta ſanavit ex ſua propria experientia, quorum 9 ſcirrhi, 3 cancri, 3 ulcera, 4 arthrit. ſcrophulæ, 1 ſpin. ventoſa, 1 elephantiaſis,

3 flour

3 fluor albus, 2 tumores hypoc. 2 rachitis, 1 ſcabies, 1 tinea, 1 cardialg. 2 tumores lymphat. 2 cataractæ, 1 lues venerea.

Cicuta 182 in cephalgiis. Sterilitas, phthiſis ſcrophularis, hydrops, &c. ulcera fœdiſſima, ſinus & fiſtulas maxime pertinaces ſola cicuta plerumque feliciter debellavi, ſanavi.

Obtigerunt tamen & mihi caſus in quibus cicuta non profuit, uſu quamvis longo & larga doſi adhibita.

Ab aliis medicis ſuppeditata ſunt: ex litteris & teſtimoniis 19 practicorum.

Scrophuloſos, ſtrumoſoſque fere innumeros ſola cicuta curavi.

In annoſa arthritide, inveterato rheumatiſmo, lue venerea, ſurditate melancolia triſtiſſima, ſerpigine ſinubus & fiſtulis pertinacibus ſpina ventoſa 261 epilepſia.

Circa uteri ulcera cancroſa quatuor habui fœminas, quas cicuta optime ſanavit, plures alias habuit verum eas nequaquam reſtituit.

Cicuta cancrum curat, id multiplici experientia convectus vidi, nec tamen aſſero omne inde cancrum curari.

Iterum dat 22 caſus felices ubi cicutæ profuit: 1 in ſtranguria, 1 ſerpigine, 2 ſcirrho, 2 vomit. contin. 1 ulcus, ſtrumarum eſt remedium, 1 noli me tangere, 1 tumor in inguine, 3 ſpina ventoſa, 1 glandulæ ſcirrhoſæ in collo, 1 pruritus, 1 hypochondria tenſa, 1 rachitis, 1 uteri hæmorrhagia, 1 cachexia, 3 cancri, 1 fluor albus, 1 gonorrhœa, 1 cardialgia.

Dedit cicutam ad ʒiv. in una doſi.

Cicuta fundit ſcirrhos etiam antiquos, 40 cancrum curat aut emendat ejus acrimoniam, puſque bonum inducit ſopit dolores.

Storck, in lib. de Stramonio, p. 3, Cicutâ diſſipari ait, veros inveteratoſque ſcirrhos & cancros exulceratos.

M. *Gataker* well obſerves, that it is ſurpriſing how ſuch a collection of cures ſhould come from a phyſician of the Empreſs, when facts do not confirm thoſe accounts; the experience of others is quite contrary to thoſe aſſertions. In this kingdom it does not appear to have produced any remarkable advantage in any

any one diſeaſe; the extract was ſent for from Dr. Storck himſelf, but in the uſe differed in nothing from the Engliſh Extract.

I have known hemlock fail in ſome thouſands of inſtances, and have never ſeen it cure a confirmed cancer; nor could I receive certain information, when at Vienna, that any perſon was actually cured of the cancer by that noxious drug.

A. De Haen, in Epiſtola de Cicuta, ad Cl. *Tralles*, 1465.

Accepit pilulas à Cl. Van Swieten. Ejus infelicitas fuit, ut quibus cicutam ſpatio anni dimidii, anni integri & ſeſqui alterius dederat, eorundem nulli *ſaneſcerent, plures in deteriora laberentur, unus periret alterque.*

Experimenta auxit ad numerum 120; cum tandem octo fœminæ periiſſent, ceterorumque & nemo curaretur & multi perioraretur; quumque ex *Bohemia, Germania, Gallia, Anglia, Belgio Italia*, ſimilia infortunia aut litteris perciperem, aut diſſertationibus intelligerem impreſſis, ab experimentis novis deſiſtendum eſſe arbitratus ſum; cicutam & inertem eſſe & noxiam a prægreſſis convictus.

Unde ſeptuaginta experimenta Breſlaviæ facta, ex illis 36 qui ſcirrho aut cancro laborarunt, 30 periere miſerrime & ſex incurabiles manſerunt, neminem curatum fuiſſe.

Storck affirmat ſæpe ſæpius. Cicuta Viennæ multiplici experientia ſcirrhos veros, antiquos, inveteratos, pertinaciſſimos reſolvit, curat cancros ingentes, exulceratos ſanat.

Cicuta Viennenſis ſola miranda patrat, indigena aliarum regionum curare nullos poteſt.

De doſi notandum a granis ij. de die ad 240 gr. aſcendit Storck ipſe.

In noſocomio quodam integra libra extracti, longo tempore fuit propinata abſque vel minima mutatione in ſomno vel excretionibus, ubinam virtus.

Hoc remedium nullam corporis actionem, ſecretionem aut excretionem turbat, agit *modo inſenſibili* nec alvum, nec vomitum, nec ſudorem movet. Here is Storck flatly contradicted by *De Haen*, a *court* phyſician at *Vienna*.

R. A. Vogel, de Cognoſcendis & Curandis Morbis, ii. 318.

Cancer peſſimum tumoris vel ulceris genus eſt, quod non modo ægrum diu atque miſerabiliter affligit, ſed et medicum ac chirurgum maximopere exercet, dum omnium pene remediorum vim pertinaciter eludit.

Verum tarde admodum fieri ſcirrhi tranſitum in cancrum noſcendum: itemque aſſiduos fere ac ſæviſſimos dolores a carcinomate aperto generari.

Omnis cancer manifeſtus h. e. exulceratus ægrum lente opprimit & conſumit, inter ſæviſſimos cruciatus, hecticamque febrem.

Per difficilis non ſolum eſt carcinomatis, tam occulti, quam multo magis exulcerati curatio: ſed & perpauca adhuc ſunt reperta medicamenta, quæ duriſſimum malum ſuperent.

Cicuta lugubres in corpore effectus edidit.

Belladonna potentior in ſcirrhoſum curatione, ſed ſuis premitur etiam noxiis, laudat aquam calcis vivæ & mercurium ſublimatum corroſivum. Quem cancrum hæc non curant alias certe non curatura ſunt.

Cancer fungoſus nullam fere curationem per remedia admittit.

De Haen, in Epiſt. de Cicuta, p. 31. Belladonna ex clarorum virorum conſilio a medata cancroſis, eundem effectum edidit, fœminarum cum interitu vide De Haenii experimenta, Rat. Med. Tom. II. p. 45, 46.

F. Boiſſier de Sauvages, Noſol. meth. ii. 547.

Principium prægumenon carcinomatis vulgo cenſetur virus proprium, cujus agendi modus ex nullis principiis mechanicis intelligitur, adeoque theoria hujus morbi eſt obſcuriſſima, & medela ex antidotis non vero remediis rationalibus expectanda.

Carcinoma vulgare; vulgo pro chronico & inſanabili habetur.

Extractum cicutæ apud Monſpelienſes *fruſtra fuit uſurpatum.*

Lieutaud, Prax. i. 534.

Tametſi cancrum mammarum plane indomabilem eſſe experientia conſtat: nonnulla tamen experiri licet præſidia.

De cicutæ viribus ſub noſtro cœlo nondum conſtat.

C. G. Ludwig, Inſt. Chirurg. 65. 68.

Peſſima eſt ſanies cancroſa, quæ corruptionis ſpaceloſæ vehementiam longe ſuperat.

Partes vicinas irritat & inficit, vaſa lymphatica ſtringit, humorem contentum inguinat, ſed cum toto corpore communicatur & labem univerſalem inducit.

Ulcera cancroſa nonnunquam contagioſa fieri poſſunt.

Scirrhus benignus uſque ad ſummam ætatem quieſcere poteſt.

Mr. *Guy* performed, ſince 1755, his cures by a medicine known by the name of M. Plunket's poultice: he makes a ſecret of his manner of dreſſing.

The induration of a ſcirrhus is ſo exceſſively great as to render it incurable by reſolution.

Whatever incites the motion of the humors and quickens the circulation, as paſſions of the mind, errors in diet, motions of the body, bruiſes, falls, fevers, &c., may change a benign ſcirrhus into a deplorable cancer.

We ſhould be induced early to attempt the cure of a ſcirrhus, though it be not troubleſome, for fear of what may happen.

Scirrhuſes that cannot be diſperſed, there is no other way left to free the patients from their complaints but by the knife, or my (Mr. Guy's) method.

He recommends no internal medicines, as not belonging to his branch of buſineſs.

External applications of the beſt authors, &c.

It is evident that the cure of ſcirrhus is one of the moſt difficult things in the whole art of ſurgery, becauſe the offending morbid

matter

matter of this diſeaſe lies, as it were, out of the bounds of circulation, whence it cannot receive the proper effects of the remedies made uſe of.

From the general conſequences of leaving ſcirrhuſes to nature, it will be found, that in twenty caſes eighteen will turn out cancers ſooner or later.

Belladonna, given without any good ſucceſs, is no ſpecific in cancerous caſes.

In two years time, in more than a hundred ſcirrhous and cancerous caſes, he cured them without failing in ten inſtances.

He pretends that his medicaments draw out the very roots of the cancers.

Mr. *Tho. Gataker*, in 1757, publiſhed his Treatiſe on Solanum, in the Eſſays on Medical Subjects.

The ſolanum belladonna nightſhade may be always tried with perfect ſafety.

In ſome obſtinate and very painful ſores, attended with a thin acrimonious diſcharge, it is capable of giving relief in a moſt extraordinary manner.

Concerning the hemlock, he ſays, it is in vain to hope for extraordinary virtues from this plant, particularly in cancerous caſes; *nor can the inefficacy of it in that reſpect be too fully known, in order that the uſual methods of palliating or relieving theſe complaints may be omitted.*

Againſt Mr. Guy's Cures of Cancers.

There are no roots in the cancer exiſting but in imagination.

The extirpating or curing cancers, with applications that draw out the *cancer's roots*, was one of the chief pretences of Mr. Plunket, an Iriſh empiric, who was the firſt that brought this method of practice to be taken much notice of in England. He underſtood nothing of ſurgery.

Mr. *Guy* purchaſed the ſecret of Plunket's poultice.

As

As to the pretended merit of the medicine in performing its operation without loſs of blood, it is the nature of all cauſtics to act in that ſame manner.

The pains in Mr. Guy's proceedings are not only as ſevere as almoſt any pain that can be ſuffered by the knife, but worſe by the tedious duration of it.

From his caſes it is difficult to form any certain or ſatisfactory judgment.

Obſervations on the Solanum Belladonna Nightſhade.

There are three ſorts—the common or garden, and the deadly nightſhade, and the bitter, ſweet, or woody nightſhade.

Mr. Guy tried the garden nightſhade in two cancerous caſes, foul and painful ulcers, obſtinate pains in particular parts of the body, ſcorbutic eruptions, and other common diſorders.

The quantity of one grain in weight of the leaf infuſed in an ounce of boiling water, and the liquor afterwards ſtrained, and taken at bed-time, would ſometimes have a conſiderable effect; but that two or three grains ſeldom failed either to vomit, ſweat, or purge the patient moderately, or to increaſe the quantity of urine.

The moſt common effects that I have obſerved to iſſue upon taking this medicine were, a heat or warmth diffuſed in a few hours over the body, a plentiful ſweat ſucceeded this heat, and ſometimes a gentle purging the next day. If a ſweat did not break out, an extraordinary diſcharge of urine was generally the conſequence, and ſometimes followed likewiſe by a purging.

One or more of the natural evacuations were almoſt always increaſed.

The doſe increaſed to twelve grains.

The freſh leaves of the deadly nightſhade, bruiſed and applied to the breaſt, have been found very efficacious in cancerous tumors. Vid. *Willoughby*, apud Raj. Hiſt. plant. 680.

Is recommended in dyſenteries by *Linnæus*, Mat. Med. § 95.

Junker, in Conſp. Chirurg. p. 314, ſpeaks of two caſes of cancers cured by it.

Dr. *Lambergen*, in an oration at Groningen, 1754, gave an account of a cancer in a woman's breaſt that had been radically cured by an infuſion of the deadly nightſhade.

Mr. *Gataker* ſays, he is far from being convinced that the infuſion of nightſhade will cure a confirmed cancer, though it is probable that great advantages will be found from it in ſome caſes that ſeem approaching to a cancerous ſtate.

I have the ſatisfaction to think that ſucceſs attends the uſe of it in ſome diſorders; and that in caſes where it fails to cure, it will ſometimes at leaſt afford great eaſe and relief.

It has not been ſubject, as far as my practice has extended, to produce any laſting ill conſequence.

Mr. *Gataker*, in the Supplement, ſays, "I am now perſuaded that there is very little reaſon to believe it has any ſpecific power for the cure of any particular diſeaſe that has not any ſuch peculiar and unaccountable power as is found to be in the bark for the cure of an ague, or in mercury for the cure of the venereal diſeaſe; but as it is a great promoter of moſt of the natural diſcharges of the body, it has a power of procuring ſleep and eaſing pains.

The nightſhade, in a paralytic caſe, ſeemed to be very ſerviceable.

In ſeveral dropſical caſes the nightſhade had good effect.

Heiſteri Comp. Medicinæ, practicæ 269.

Alii ſuccum belladonnæ, alii folia & decoctum ejus & externe & interne magnifaciunt: verum ſine fructu hæc adhibita fuiſſe novi.

Remede eprouvé pour guerir radicalement le Cancer occulte & manifeſte ou ulceré, &c. par Meſſire G. R. le Febure de St. Ild***.

The

The author examined, by chemical experiments, the ichor that flowed from an open cancer of two patients, which ſhewed different effects.

His remedy for the cancer is arſenic taken inwardly.

Jacobi uſed it in all fevers, principally in intermittents.

Pitcairn, *Zacutus Luſitanus*, &c., have employed it in dyſenteries.

Fallopius, *Penot*, *Theodoric*, *Valeſcus*, and others, made uſe of it as topical applications in cancerous ulcers; yet they only employed it as a cauſtic, and frequently mixed it with corroſive ſublimate.

Diſſert. Academique ſur le Cancer, which obtained the double premium propoſed by the Academy of Sciences at Lyons, in 1773. By *Ber. Peyrilhe*, M. D. Royal Profeſſor in the College of Surgery at Paris.

It is in this diſſertation that the firſt account is given of the application of *fixed air* to the cancer as a method of cure, whoſe ſalutary effects have been ſince aſcertained in England and France by ſeveral experiments.

Dr. *Guthrie*, of Peterſburgh, has not obſerved any ſenſible benefit produced by *the fixed air* in *cancerous caſes*; but in old, ſpreading, ill-conditioned ulcers it has, in many inſtances, relieved the pain, brought on a more favourable digeſtion, and much improved the appearance of the ulcers; and in ſome it has effected a complete cure.

J. O. Juſtamond. Account of the Methods purſued in the Treatment of cancerous and ſcirrhous Diſorders, and other Indurations.

1. ℞. a martial tincture with ſal ammoniac, uſed as a waſh round the ulcer.

2. A hemlock bath.

3. A preparation of arſenic uſed as a cauſtic,

Againſt Mr. *Gataker*, in 1757, roſe Mr. *Bromfield*, Surgeon to St. George's Hoſpital, whoſe experiments widely differ from the former.

According to Mr. *Bromfield*, the ſymptoms were not only not relieved, but new ones were often brought on, and the patient's health rather injured than benefited.

In ſeveral caſes of inflammation, ulcers, &c., where this medicine had been given, it often occaſioned pains in the ſores, nauſea, complaints of the head, temporary loſs of ſight, delirium, violent vomitings, gripings, and purgings, and even death itſelf to one perſon under his own inſpection, though the doſe of the garden nightſhade did not exceed one grain at a time.

It ſeems the one author had written prejudiced in favor of the medicine, and the other ſeems to have had his prejudices againſt it.

There are inconteſtible proofs of its deleterious qualities.

Waltheri Sylva Medica, de Cancro.

Joh. Agricola: Pulvis arſenici compoſ. ad cancrum egregius.

Gabr. Fallopius: Arſenicum cryſtall. ſublimatum; experientia ſæpius probatum.

Greg. Horſtius: Arſenicum cum merc. ſublimato.

O. Maroldus: ℞. Mercurii ſublimati ʒiv. cum ſucco apii. F. ung.

Glandorp. 19. *Gazophyl.* in cauſticum lanfranci ingreditur arſenicum.

Pecquet, Paracelſus etiam uſi ſunt.

Platerus, Prax. Med. ii. 744. habet cauſticum arſenici & ſublimati.

Pulvis ℞. Arſenici cryſtal. ʒij.

Rad. aronis ʒj. F. Pulvis.

Alius ex pulvere ℞. Mercurii ſublimati ʒj.

Aq. roſar.

—— ſolani a ʒiv. parum coque.

℞. Arſenici albi ſubtiliſſime pulverati.

Part 1. Rad. ari pt. iv. fuliginis parum ut horum trium miſtione, pulvis modice cinereus vulgo griſeus fiat.

Hic pulvis ad craſſitiem dorſi cultri ulceri cancroſo inſpergitur, cavendo ne bonam carnem tangat, pluresque addit cantelas, intra 18 dies eſchara ſeparatur a ſana carne.

Wiſeman's Chir. Treatiſe, 105.

Guido has commended arſenic powdered and ſprinkled daily upon the cancers.

Riverius, in his Obſervations, tells of a cancer that was extirpated by the following ℞. Aq. fort. ℥j. Sublimati crudi ℥viij. Salis armoniaci ℥ij. Arſenici ʒj. diſtilled ad ſiccitatem; then the caput mortuum powdered, the ſame weight of vinegar put to it, and diſtilled again to the conſiſtence of a ſoft paſte for uſe.

Oleum arſenici, aq. regia, ol. vitrioli, lap. cauſtic. &c., have been propoſed.

Waldſchimd, 456.

Timæus omnia habet remedia ad cancrum.

Barbette commendat quintam eſſentiam arſenici, ſed quis eum imitetur.

℞. Rad. ſerpentar. exſiccata redigatur in pulverem, quantum lubet, adde arſenici cryſtallini partem tertiam, fuliginis camini parum, miſceantur optime. Carcinoma inſpergatur pulvere dicto, & fiat eſchara, quæ decidit circa diem duodecimam per ſe, tunc adhibe emplaſtrum, &c.

Sculteti Armamentar. 188.

Dat decoctum, in fine hæc adnotat: & notandum, hujus ſolutionis decocti crebro uſu, multos ab exulcerati carcinomatis doloribus liberatos, pluresque a nondum exulcerato: fuiſſe curatos, hæc obiter de decocto.

Poſt exciſionem mammæ elapſis 12 diebus, duos tumores ſub axilla inſignes reliquit topicis reſolvendos, chirurgus applicuit cauſticum ex arſenico paratum.

Cancer curatus, extracto hellebori nigri ℈j. crem. tart. ℈ſs. conſ. hamech. ʒvj.

Conclusion *to the Breaſt Diſeaſes, and Cancers,*

The obſervations on the the theory and practice of relieving cancers, &c., are new, they are not drawn from any lights hitherto delivered by other writers, ancient or modern, but poſitively from my own long experience and reflection. The diſorder, like many others, has never been ſcientifically inveſtigated; the cauſes of difficulties, or impoſſibility of cure, in many inſtances, have never before been aſcertained; but the anatomical inveſtigations which I have made on theſe ſubjects, clearly demonſtrate the irrationality of expecting a cure under any circumſtances, except in the firſt or ſecond ſtage of the diſorder. It might be aſked *quo uſu?* I anſwer, the moſt important. If the cauſes of diſorders, and reaſons of their eaſe or difficulty of cure, were more clearly underſtood, there would be leſs room for unreaſonable expectation in patients, and leſs opportunities for impoſtors to delude ſociety with fallacious promiſes.

I have directed my whole life to a zealous attention to anatomical demonſtrations, and I intend, in my *Schola medicinæ* to deliver, in the moſt explicit manner, the fruits of all my labours, and to determine, as much as poſſible, the neceſſity of treating all diſorders according to the different conſtitutions and ſtate of blood, &c. &c. after reaſoning on the cauſes of diſeaſes, from their abſolute and certain effects, or appearances after death. Such demonſtrations and medical facts will, in time, overturn all vain imaginary hypotheſes, and render the practice of phyſic more clear and intelligible.

TWO

LETTERS

TO

Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER,

PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO THE QUEEN,

PROFESSOR OF ANATOMY IN THE ROYAL ACADEMY, AND FELLOW OF THE ROYAL AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETIES,

ON THE DANGEROUS TENDENCY OF

MEDICAL VANITY;

OCCASIONED BY THE

DEATH OF A NOBLE LADY:

WITH

A REMARKABLE CURE OF A CANCEROUS WOMB,

&c. &c.

Cur igitur nefas reperiri aliquid a nobis quod ante non fuerit?

INTRODUCTION.



INTRODUCTION.

TO preſerve a remarkable inſtance of cure in the *ſcirrhous* and cancerous ulcer of the womb, an ulcer of the rectum, &c., when the moſt ſkilful phyſicians, by purſuing the common modes of practice, failed; are the ſubſequent letters introduced.

Theſe diſorders have been, and are, univerſally conſidered incurable, and, in many inſtances, this is the truth; but as the following caſe was cured by the means communicated, and as other caſes ſince have been cured by ſimilar means; the omiſſion of ſuch facts, however extraordinary they may appear, would have been a violation to humanity. What has happened may happen. As the gentle modes recommended can do no miſchief, and as they have ſucceeded, and may hereafter ſucceed, it is a ſufficient juſtification

fication to the author for re-publiſhing the letters. It is not to gratify reſentment that they were ever publiſhed; but to ſerve ſociety, by ſubmitting it to mankind, whether improvements, or even attempts at improvement, ſhould not be candidly received? and not, as is too often the caſe, violently oppoſed. It is the common fate of improvers to be loaded with ſcurrility and rancorous cenſure: it is the duty of the cenſured, under ſuch circumſtances, to be vigilant, and riſe ſuperior to the ſhafts of envy. No perſon who diſcovers, or wiſhes to diſcover, what hath been before unknown, has any right to expect more candor than former diſtinguiſhed improvers have experienced. An ambitious zeal to excel, will ever produce envious calumniators: the moſt benevolent friends of human nature have, at firſt, been treated as enemies to ſociety; not becauſe the detractors thought them ſo, but becauſe it is expedient, in the opinion of the indolent, that ſuperior merit ſhould be cruſhed, leſt the aſſumed pretenſions of thoſe, who ſhine in the common beaten paths of erroneous practice, ſhould be obſcured.

A

LETTER, &c.

SIR,

WE cannot be too ſolicitous to correct the errors of a profeſſion, which has nothing leſs than the reſtitution of health, or the preſervation of life for its objects. The practice of phyſic, you well know, Sir, in its moſt improved ſtate, is often ineffectual to attain theſe important ends; and when this happens, we can only lament the uncertainty of a defective art. Failures of this kind are, however, blameleſs, becauſe they are involuntary: but if a phyſician ſuffers the interpoſition of any private view, to fruſtrate the utility of what is really known, he gives a ſhock to humanity, and deſerves the ſevereſt cenſures. An imperious opinion of one's own

own ſkill is often the cauſe of errors of this nature. A great reputation inclines the poſſeſſor to diſapprove of any diſcovery which is not of his own acquiſition. Men are too apt to make their own knowledge the criterion of perfection. But it ſhould be remembered, that when an art is imperfect, it is of courſe improveable, and that one may diſcover, what may have eſcaped the greateſt penetration and judgment of another. A conſtant, an honeſt inclination, therefore, of warmly embracing every probable means of effecting the great intentions of the profeſſion, ſhould always actuate a phyſician. The greateſt abilities, Sir, have but a partial pretenſion to fame, where this inclination is wanting—they may raiſe the admiration of the world; but it is the relief of patients that muſt make them reſpectable.

It is no pleaſure to me, Sir, that I have an occaſion to addreſs, in this public manner, a gentleman of your diſtinguiſhed character in the profeſſion: but your extraordinary conduct, in a late unfortunate event, obliges me to introduce to public view circumſtances that affect both our characters.

Some

Some ſucceſs which had happily attended my treatment of cancers of the breaſts, and other parts, being known to perſons of diſtinction, I had the honor to be recommended by a lady of quality to attend the late Lady H———. As you then viſited her Ladyſhip, it was ſubmitted to your determination, whether the reaſons of my recommendation were worthy of your attention, or their expectations. You objected to the propoſal of the noble friends of the deceaſed Lady, who had nothing in view but the moſt affectionate wiſhes for her Ladyſhip's relief. You ſaid on that occaſion, Sir, " *That you thought it* " *would be highly imprudent to admit a* ſtran- " ger; *that I might increaſe her Ladyſhip's* " pain; *and that you did not think it poſſible* " *that any relief could be obtained.*"

Theſe opinions of a phyſician, eminently diſtinguiſhed in the profeſſion, could not fail of anſwering their purpoſes. The idea of more *pain*, to a lady already in extreme torture, joined with the word *ſtranger*, alarmed the apprehenſions of her Ladyſhip's friends, and effectually prevented my being conſulted in ſo important an affair. An affair,

fair, Sir, in which your reputation was ſo highly concerned, that even from motives of common prudence, it might be naturally ſuppoſed, you would have carefully avoided every imputation that could in the leaſt affect your character.

In conſequence of your objections, Lady Mary F— waited on the lady, by whom I had the honour to be recommended, and, after returning her Ladyſhip thanks, related your diſapprobation of my aſſiſtance. Were the motives of your conduct confined to yourſelf, I ſhould be ſilent on the ſubject: but as they may have an extenſive influence in the profeſſion, and may in ſome inſtances prove deſtructive to ſociety, it becomes abſolutely neceſſary to ſubject them to public obſervation. Previous, however, to any particular animadverſions, I am under the neceſſity of relating the following well-authenticated fact, becauſe it was the very reaſon of my being ſo warmly propoſed. The public will then be enabled to determine, whether your oppoſition to me, Sir, was conſiſtent with that humanity and care which

ſhould

ſhould conſtantly influence the practice of a phyſician.

In the year 1767, M. S., a lady in the country, perceived ſome ſmall eruptions in ſeveral parts of the ſkin. Dr. Bates, a phyſician eſteemed in the neighbourhood, preſcribed a lotion. Afterwards, by the advice of Mr. Edmonds, a ſkilful ſurgeon, a quickſilver girdle was worn. This was perſiſted in a conſiderable time, and the eruptions diſappeared.

In the year 1768 many eruptions re-appeared, and were troubleſome on any conſiderable motion or exerciſe. Several medicines being adminiſtered without any benefit, the lady was adviſed to go to Brighthelmſtone, to bathe in the ſea, and drink ſalt water. She likewiſe bathed at a *certain period*, which, though very hazardous, has been too often adviſed by unſkilful practitioners near the ſea.

Theſe methods produced a great relaxation without curing the eruptions, and probably laid the foundation of thoſe complaints, which afterwards became ſo dangerous and alarming. A pain was ſoon felt near the neck of

the *veſica urinaria*; and this was ſucceeded by a ſwelling, which frequently ſuppreſſed the urine.

From this time the ſymptoms became more violent; the pain in the tumor was ſo exquiſite, that the lady was frequently deprived of reſt. Dr. Bates preſcribed the common uterine remedies, judiciouſly thinking, as I have been informed by the family, the caſe to be an *ulcer* of the bladder, or a *ſcirrhus* of the uterus.

Theſe complaints gradually increaſed for two or three years; and the lady finding no relief from any remedy which was preſcribed by the medical gentlemen of the country in which ſhe reſided, it was thought neceſſary to conſult another phyſician. Dr. Smith, a gentleman of diſtinguiſhed eminence, and one of our profeſſors in the univerſity of Oxford, was accordingly conſulted.

At this time the lady was incapable of uſing any exerciſe without pain. The urine was ſometimes ſuppreſſed; at others, it iſſued involuntarily, commonly occaſioning great uneaſineſs. There was a ſanious diſcharge, which was conſiderable, and ſharp darting pains

pains like labor. Dr. Smith preſcribed as follows:

℞. Emuls. commun. ſine ſacch. ppt. ℥iſs.
Sperm. cet. in muc. g. Arab. ſolut.
Terr. rub. briſtol. ſubtiliſs. lævigat.
Bals. Canadens. ſolut. aa. ℈i.
Tinct. Stypt. Eaton. ver.
—— Cinnam.
Syr. alth. aa. ℥i. m. f. Hauſt. ſumend. 6 quaq. hora. Bibat aq. pyrmont. rec. cyath. temp. inter. Hauſt. med. addendo primo chalyb. ſolut. in ſucc. cydon. rec. coch. i. vel minim.

For M. S. J. S. Oxford.
Oct. 26, 1772.

Theſe remedies not in the leaſt alleviating the ſymptoms, the ſame gentleman was again conſulted. The following is an authentic copy of his letter on this occaſion, to Mr. Edmonds, ſurgeon, at Wendover, the original of which I have in my poſſeſſion.

" SIR,

" I am ſorry for the account you give of " our patient; it is not improbable but the " ſteel may be a little too rough and aſtrin- " gent for her. I was deſirous of attempt-

" ing ſomething more than barely to palliate, " and ſtill am unwilling to give up the " attempt; at the ſame time I wiſh, moſt " ſincerely, that M. S. could be conveyed " to town, in order to have a conſultation " of the moſt eminent phyſicians and ſur- " geons upon her caſe. They probably may " be able to find out, by examining carefully " the urinary paſſages with a leaden or " wax candle, or bougie, exactly the ſeat of " the complaint, which is a circumſtance of " great importance; mean while ſhe may " take as follows:

℞. Pulv. e Tragacanth. comp.
Sperm. cet. pulv,
G. oljb. pulv.
Terr. rub. Briſtol. ſubtiliſs. lævigat. aa. ʒij. cum ſyrup. alth. q. f. electuar. cujus capiat. Q. N. M. mane, meridie, & nocte.
Superbib. decoct. ſeq. ℥iij. vel iiij.

℞. Decoct. pectoral. q. s. coquend.
Addendo ſol. tuſſilag.
Heder. terreſtr. aa. ʒij. Rad. helen ℥ſs. colat ℔ſs.

℞. Elect. lenitiv. ʒj.
Magnes. alb.
Flor. ſulph. lot. aa. ʒij. m. & cum
Syr. ros. ſolut. f. electuar. cujus capiat ʒj. vel ij.
In alvi nimia aſtrictione.

" Aſſes milk, freſh whey, and milk diet
" in general, are certainly proper. The
" Pyrmont water may be drank *ad libitum*,
" provided it does not occaſion the curd-
" ling of milk in the ſtomach.

" I have been looking into *Boerhaave*,
" *Hoffman*, *Sauvage*, and others, for ſome
" light in this very troubleſome caſe, but
" can find nothing greatly to my ſatisfac-
" tion. Milk diet, ſoft mucilages, balſam
" copaiba, ſulphurcous waters. Theſe are
" the principal things recommended, I can-
" not conclude without wiſhing again, that
" a conſultation may be had, and the ſooner
" the better. I am, Sir, with beſt wiſhes
" for our patient's recovery, and compli-
" ments to the family,

" SIR,
" Your moſt obedient ſervant,
" J. SMITH."

Oxford,
Nov. 6, 1772.

After the patient had perſiſted about four-
teen days in this plan, without any relief, the
family, according to the advice of the learned

Dr. Smith, carefully removed the lady to London, to a houſe in Taviſtock Street. The great reputation, Sir, which you have acquired from your extenſive practice in feminine diſeaſes, induced her friends to conclude it expedient to apply to you, in a caſe which had ſuch affinity with that branch of practice for which you have been ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed.

When you was conſulted, you immediately declared the caſe to be a *ſcirrhous* and cancerous ulcer of the uterus, and preſcribed the following:

For M. S.

℞. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥ifs.
G. Arab. ℥ij.
Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xxv. M. hauſt. h. S. ſumend.

W. H.

Nov. 23, 1772. The initials for *William Hunter.*

The firſt preſcription, Sir, it is evident, was only intended as a palliative, to act by its opiate qualities, and was by no means calculated to remove ſuch an inveterate diſtemper.

From

From perceiving the diſorder very dangerous, you adviſed a conſultation. *Dr. Fothergill* met you the next day; and, after a deliberate examination of the caſe, the following preſcription was written:

℞. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp- ℥iſs.
G. Arab. ℈ij.
Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xxv. M. f. hauſt.
Hac nocte ſumend. & craſtina repetend.

℞. Aq. Puræ,
— Cinnam. ten. aa. ℥j.
Ol. Ricini ℥iij.
G. Arab. ℥ſs. Syr Simp. q. s. f. hauſt. cras primo ſumend. & poſt horas iv. repetend. ſi opus fuerit.

℞. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ℥vj.
———— Spirit ℥ſs.
Syr. Croci ℥ij.
Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xij. M. capiat coch. ij. urgente nauſea,

W. H. J. F.
The initials for
William Hunter.
John Fothergill.

24
—1722
11

We ſtill ſee from theſe preſcriptions, that nothing more was intended, than to palliate the ſymptoms.

The opiates, as I obſerved before, were preſcribed to eaſe pain; the *ol. Ricini*, to keep

keep the inteſtines gently lax, and to counteract the aſtringent qualities of the *opium*; for a coſtiveneſs immediately followed your firſt preſcription. The mixture, with the mint water, was ordered for a ſickneſs of the ſtomach and vomiting, which the pains had occaſioned, which is a concomitant ſymptom from ſympathy of parts. At this time, then, no method was attempted to radically cure the diſeaſe.

On the 26th of November, you and *Dr. Fothergill* met and conſulted again on the caſe. You then preſcribed,

℞. Aq. Menth. pip. Simp. ʒiſs.
Tinct. Thebaic. gutt. xx.
G. Arab ℈ij. f. hauſt. omni nocte ſumend.
Crâs mane capiat hauſt. cu. ol. Ricini.
Præſcript. & diebus alternis repet.
Addendo ol. Ricini ʒj. vel ʒij ſi opus erit.
Pergat in uſu Julepi præſcripti pro re nata.

W. H. J. F.

The initials for
William Hunter.
John Fothergill.

26
—1772
xi

The ſame plan we find was perſiſted in, though not the leaſt relief had been obtained.

On

On the 26th, you and *Dr. Fothergill* met again in conſultation, and preſcribed as follows:

℞. Repet. hauſt. anodyn. noviſſime præſcript. omni nocte ſumend.

℞. Extract. Cicutæ ʒij. f. pil. xxx. (non deaurand.) capiat ægra ij. meridie ij. veſperi, & iij. h. f.

℞. Rad. Sarſaparil. ʒiſs coq. in aq. pur. ℔. iſs ad ℔. i. colatur: adde aq. nuc. moſch. ʒj. capt. coch. viij. poſt pil. præſcript. meridie & veſperi. H. S. capiat hauſt. anodyn. poſt eaſdem pilulas.

℞. Aq. puræ ʒx.
— nuc moſch. ʒj.
Magnes. Alb.
Troch. de ſulph. aa. ʒſs. f. hauſt.
Sumend. manè, quotidie addendo Tinct. Jalap. gutt. xxx vel xl. loco aq. nuc. moſch. ſi alvus quotidie non reſponderit.

W. H. J. F.

29 —1772 xi

The initials for
William Hunter.
John Fothergill.

We now find that the *hemlock*, that faſhionable and deſtructive drug, is exhibited, but without the leaſt advantage; it, however, enables us to draw this concluſion, that the caſe was treated as a *cancer*. Soon after the lady had taken the hemlock, a giddineſs of

of the head was complained of, and a loſs of memory was the conſequence, which continued a conſiderable time.

Theſe laſt preſcriptions were perſiſted in till the 7th of December, during which time the ſymptoms became more violent; the lady continued in extreme miſery, and her memory became ſo much impaired, that ſhe could ſcarce recollect any tranſaction one minute paſt. This laſt complaint I muſt attribute to the *hemlock*, becauſe I have known ſeveral inſtances where this noxious drug has produced ſimilar effects without any advantage, and one in particular, where it brought on *comatoſe ſymptoms*, and inconteſtibly proved *fatal*. I could here animadvert on the impropriety of the foregoing preſcriptions; but it is ſufficient, at this time, to obſerve, that they were not in the leaſt ſucceſsful.

On the 7th of December, in conſultation with *Dr. Fothergill*, you preſcribed,

℞. Julep. e Creta cum dimid. ſacch ʒiſs.
Amyl. vulg. ʒiſs.
Aq. cin. ten. ʒj.

Tinct.

Tinct. Theb. gutt. ij. f. hauſt. 8va quaq. hora ſumend. H. S. repetatur hauſt. anodyn. præſcript.

W. H. J. F.

7 —1772 12

The initials of
William Hunter.
John Fothergill.

On the 10th, Dr. Fothergill viſited the patient, and ordered,

℞. Julep. e Creta ℥x.
Aq. Cin. Spirit. ℥iſs.
Pulv. Rhei gr. vij. f. hauſt. quamprimum ſumendus. Deinde pergat in uſu hauſt. e Creta præſcript. horis octavis. addend. ſingul. P. nuc. moſch tor. gr. vij. H. S. Capt. hauſt. anodyn. præſcript.

J. F.

10 —1772 xii

The initials of
John Fothergill.

Theſe cretaceous preparations, joined with gentle cardiacs, were intended to relieve a diarrhœa, that probably aroſe from an irritation in the rectum, which was afterwards productive of an *ulcer* in that inteſtine.

On the 14th of December you conſulted Dr. Fothergill a fifth time, and then found that every ſymptom had increaſed ſince you and Dr. Fothergill had attended the patient.

This

This ill ſucceſs, joined with ſome additional ſymptoms, which you and Dr. Fothergill concluded were very alarming and dangerous, induced you candidly to acknowledge your inabilities to relieve the lady. You declared to Captain S., the brother of the patient, in the preſence of many other friends and relations, that the diſorder was abſolutely incurable. Dr. Fothergill was of the ſame opinion. On your being queſtioned by a lady preſent, who had a ſincere affection for the patient, how long you thought M. S. would live, you anſwered, it was impoſſible to determine that; but you expreſſed, in a pathetic manner, that you was ſenſibly affected on a reflection, that we ſhould ſuffer extreme miſery before her departure. You then, Sir, adviſed, that ſhe ſhould be removed with all poſſible care into the country.

The laſt preſcription is as follows:

Perſiſtat in uſu hauſt. anodyn. præſcript. ſi alvus adſtricta fuerit, manè capt. aq. purg. (Jeſſopens Dict.) ℥vj. vel ℥viij. vel q. s. ad alvum ſemel quotidie ſubmovendum.

W. H. J. F.

The initials of
William Hunter.
John Fothergill.

14
—1772
12

The foregoing preſcriptions were certainly *inadequate* to the cure of ſuch an obſtinate diſeaſe: but as it is the common, though a moſt futile mode of practice, as every experienced and reflecting phyſician ought to know; a deviation from it, perhaps, would have been conſidered erroneous, as being oppoſite to the rules of art, or the common beaten roads of practice. Eſtabliſhed maxims, however contrary to deep philoſophical reaſoning, however unſucceſsful, are ſeldom relinquiſhed; though the preſervation of life may be frequently dependant on it.

I ſhall now endeavour to bring to your recollection, a true ſtate of the lady's ſituation, at the time you and *Doctor Fothergill* declined attendance.

You may remember, Sir, that there was a *ſcirrhus* of the uterus, which produced inexpreſſible and conſtant darting pains. There was a continual ſanious diſcharge of that *complexion and fetor*, which characteriſe a *cancerous ulcer*; the patient was under the diſagreeable neceſſity of lying in bed, for the natural evacuation of the urine and feces, and both were attended with exquiſite pain,

and

and a conſiderable quantity of acrimonious, purulent *pus*. From the laſt I concluded that there was an *ulcer* in the *rectum*. Theſe ſymptoms, after the adminiſtration of the opiates and cretacious medicines, were accompanied with coſtiveneſs, the moſt excruciating pains, cold ſhiverings, nauſea, and ſometimes vomitings, loſs of memory, and a countenance which ſeemed to foretel a total diſſolution. So emaciated and exhauſted was the patient, that nature ſeemed too weak to aſſiſt the operation of any medicine. A great part of the ſurface of the body was covered with ſcorbutic eruptions; the countenance was ſqualid; teeth black; and the leaſt motion, even from the bed to a ſopha, occaſioned the moſt painful ſenſations. At this time *The Lord le Deſpencer* did me the honor to recommend me, in conſequence of ſucceſs in a caſe which his Lordſhip was acquainted with. At the requeſt of the brother, Captain S., I viſited the lady on the 15th of December 1772. I examined minutely every circumſtance, and endeavoured to gain a clear information of what had been attempted by you, and the other gentle-

gentlemen who had been conſulted, and tranſmitted the whole immediately to paper, which was juſt as I have related it.

A conſideration of this complicated caſe diſpoſed me, however, to believe there yet remains ſome hopes of relief, becauſe ſucceſs had already followed former attempts to remove the recent *ſcirrhus* of the uterus, though not in ſo very deſperate a caſe as the preſent. I reſolved therefore to adminiſter ſome remedies, which reaſon and experience induced me to think were more adequate to the cure of ſuch inveterate complaints, than thoſe already preſcribed, or in common practice. I began with mild alteratives, in very ſmall doſes, and forbade the uſe of opiates, as their bad effects in weakening, greatly overbalance the little temporary relief they give.

℞. Mercur. dulc. duodecies ſubl. præparat. & loti.
Sulph. aurat. antimon. partes æquales, tere ſimul in mortario vitreo per xij. horas, f. pulvis.

℞. Hujus pulveris ℈j. Confect. demcorat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xx. ſumat unam ter in die.

℞. Pulv. ſal. nitr.
Æthiop. min. aa. ℥ſs. M. accurate, multâ tituratione, f. pulvis, dividendus in xx doſes, quarum capiat unam poſt ſingulam pilulam ex coch. ij. aquæ hordeatæ.
Emulſio communis bibenda pro potu ordinario.

Diet

Diet preſcribed.

All acids and fruits to be avoided.

Liquids of all ſorts to be uſed very ſparingly.

All ſpirituous and vinous liquors to be abſtained from.

Light meats to be eaten for dinner, if the ſtomach ſhould bear them.

All vegetables and roots to be avoided.

Obſervations.

1. Acids diſagree with mineral alteratives; the cauſes, chemiſtry and phyſiology will aſcertain.

2. Large draughts of aqueous liquors relax the ſtomach, acting as a fomentation.

3. Spirituous and vinous liquors produce falſe ſpirits, cauſe heat, and retard digeſtion.

4. Light meats afford the beſt nouriſhment.

5. Vegetables, during digeſtion, increaſe fermentation and wind; theſe diſtending the inteſtines, compreſs the diſeaſed parts, and cauſe an increaſe of pain.

Theſe

Theſe new methods of treatment, which are diametrically oppoſite to moſt in common uſe, produced ſuch excellent effects, that the coſtiveneſs was removed, and all the ſymptoms were alleviated in a fortnight.

The lady was then conveyed into the country, and recovered daily.

In about one month ſhe could ſit up three or four hours, though in the moſt inclement part of the winter; but could not ſtand without the ſupport of two perſons.

The pill was then increaſed to one grain and a half, *quater in die*, with the ſame powder, which was taken in *julep. e camphora.*

Afterwards the pill was increaſed to two grains, and the powder was given in the following ſolution of camphor:

℞. Camphor. ʒiſs.
Amygdal. decorticat. ʒij.
Sacch. alb. ʒiſs. tere ſimul accurate, deinde adde gradatim aq. pur. ℔j. M. f. ſolutio.

In about four months more, by continuing the ſame remedies, the lady recovered her memory perfectly, and every diſcharge had a more favourable appearance. The eruptions entirely diſappeared: appetite and natu-

ral

ral reſt gradually increaſed, which for ſome *years before* the patient had been deprived of.

By a perſeverance in the ſame medicines, and by gradually increaſing their doſes, a perfect cure was accompliſhed in eleven months.

The lady continues in perfect health, can ride on horſeback, walk up an aſcent, and uſe any moderate exerciſe, without the leaſt inconvenience.

This, Sir, you well know, is a plain narration of that caſe, for which I had the honor to be recommended by *Lady A.* to attend the late *Lady H.*

You are well acquainted, Sir, with my being conſulted in the caſe of M. S. You viſited that lady in Taviſtock Street, after ſhe became my patient, and knew the remedies adminiſtered. Upon your enquiring of Captain S., whether I had poſitively pronounced the caſe curable, you were informed, that I had made no poſitive aſſertions, but expreſſed ſome hopes of ſucceſs. To this anſwer you honourably replied, "*that you* "*thought I had acted like a man of candor and* "*judgment.*"

You were perfectly well informed of my ſucceſs in the caſe of M. S. at the time I was propoſed to be conſulted by *Lady H———*'s friends, becauſe you had ſeen the Lady M. S. in perfect health, ſince the cure. Would it, then, have been inconſiſtent, either with the honour or integrity of a phyſician, to have aſſented, nay, urged the neceſſity of my aſſiſtance? The caſes, you know, were ſimilar: but let us ſuppoſe, Sir, that you were unacquainted with the ſucceſsful treatment of that individual caſe; did it not carry ſome appearance of a want of candor to oppoſe any other phyſician, from whom even the leaſt relief might have been expected; eſpecially when you had even relinquiſhed all hopes of a cure, and had acknowledged yourſelf, in conjunction with Dr. Fothergill, incapable of rendering any ſervice? From your want of ſucceſs in M. S., you had every reaſon to conclude, that you could be of no ſervice to *Lady H———*. In a caſe, Sir, where extreme *pain* and *danger* ſhould have awakened your ſenſibility, humanity for once ſhould have overcome your pride, and prevented you from concluding, that the fruitleſs at-

tempts of your own ſkill was a ſufficient argument for the impoſſibility of a cure. We have great cauſe, however, to lament, that many have fallen victims to ſuch *medical vanity*.

It was not derogatory to your character, that you, Dr. *Fothergill*, or the other phyſicians, who were conſulted by M. S., were incapable of curing a cancer. It has been a univerſal maxim, among both ancients and moderns, that ſuch diſorders were, in general, incurable. *Hippocrates*, *Celſus*, and the other ancients; *Boerhaave*, *Hoffman*, and the greateſt of the moderns, have all acknowledged the difficulty, or impoſſibility of it.

Your reputation, Sir, was too well eſtabliſhed, to ſuffer any diminution from the ſucceſs of another; and, perhaps, this is the only inſtance where you have unfortunately violated your conſcience without increaſing your fame. I do not mean to aggravate the uneaſineſs an important, and, perhaps, wilful omiſſion muſt occaſion. I only wiſh that this fatal example may teach you to regulate your future conduct, and bring to your recol-

lection this uſeful truth; that a *phyſician*, though his *reputation be ever ſo great*, cannot always, by his *own knowledge*, fulfil his duty to the public, or his patient.

You know, Sir, that the moſt trifling circumſtances have raiſed *ſome phyſicians* and *ſurgeons* to the higheſt fame; ſuch know well the impoſſibility of detection, and ſmile luxuriouſly at the unſuſpicious *credulity* of mankind. I will hope, that you have raiſed your reputation on a more ſolid foundation, by ſuperior merit. If ſo, I ſenſibly feel for you, pity you, and am concerned, that one, who has arrived to every honour which can be annexed to our uſeful profeſſion, ſhould deſcend to hazard, in one moment, the labor of his whole life. If, however, the injurious inſinuations of one phyſician were only pointed againſt another, they would admit of ſome extenuation, for they might be termed *illiberal:* but when they affect the life of a patient, they muſt be conſidered *inhuman*.

For let us ſuppoſe, Sir, that I had been introduced, and had anſwered the expectations the noble friends of the deceaſed lady had ſome reaſon to entertain, would my ſuc-

ceſs, in giving her ladyſhip relief, have diſturbed your tranquillity? If, Sir, the gratification of a diſingenuous diſpoſition was your object, my failure in the attempt, which your ſuppoſed ſuperior abilities no doubt ſuggeſted, afforded a proper occaſion; becauſe I ſhould have been liable to the cenſure of vanity and preſumption. But there is great reaſon to ſuppoſe, Sir, that you were not a competent judge; becauſe you pronounced, that it was impoſſible to cure M. S., and you have received demonſtration, that your opinion was erroneous. You had, therefore, no more reaſon to imagine a cure was impracticable in one patient than in another: you had been miſtaken in one inſtance; and you ought to have concluded, that you were likely to be miſtaken in another.

Perhaps, Sir, you may aſſign, as a reaſon for your oppoſition to me, that the caſes were not ſimilar: but from an information which can be depended on, the difference was only this, Lady H———'s caſe was leſs complex than that of M. S.; for which reaſon it was probably more eaſy to cure: Lady H——— had not ſuffered the complaint above two years;

years; M. S. a much longer time: her Ladyſhip's caſe was a cancer, and you perſiſted in a ſimilar plan with that you adopted for M. S. I believe, Sir, it will be thought, that your failure of ſucceſs in the former patient ought to have prevailed on you to have attempted another method in the latter. You will reply, you did: it is very true; a *ſecret remedy*, a *noſtrum*, received your approbation, and was exhibited to your noble patient by Mr. Juſtamond; ſome preparation, it ſeems, of *arſenic*.

I have already obſerved the pernicious effects of *hemlock* and *opium* in the caſe of M. S.; yet in the caſe of *Lady H———*, they were uſed with the moſt unlimited freedom, without anſwering one ſalutary purpoſe whatever. Beſides a *ſecret remedy*, which I have mentioned, no leſs than 1500 drops of *liquid laudanum* were given every day; *hemlock* uſed in baths, and in every manner which art could contrive. I want words to expreſs the horrid idea I have of ſuch *empirical* practices; and am aſtoniſhed to ſee them countenanced by a man, whoſe ſmooth addreſs has acquired ſuch diſtinguiſhed reputation.

Your

Your want of ſucceſs, Sir, in your firſt attempts of cure in Lady H.'s caſe, perhaps might have made you ſenſible of an inefficacious practice; but the alteration you adopted teſtifies no rational view of improvement: for can a *ſecret remedy*, a *quackery project*, be rationally given, to anſwer this or any other purpoſe? Will it be conſidered, Sir, that the dignity of the profeſſion was ſupported, when you aſſented; or was it conſiſtent with the knowledge and reputation of a phyſician? A little conſideration, Sir, would have taught you, that there never was, nor perhaps never will be, an infallible ſpecific for any diſeaſe. The reaſon is obvious; there is as great a diverſity in the conſtitutions, as in the faces and tempers of mankind, which muſt conſtantly produce a variation in practice. It is a clear knowledge of this diverſity which can qualify us to apply our remedies judiciouſly, and diſtinguiſhes the real learned phyſician from the bold enterpriſing pretenders to *ſecrets*.

Two practitioners, as regularly bred as yourſelf, are warmly recommended to your conſideration; the one keeps his practice a profound

found myſterious *ſecret*; the other *openly* avows to all the world his new-invented methods of treatment, and proves his ſucceſs on one of your own patients, after you and Dr. Fothergill had deſerted her as irrecoverably loſt. What conduct does the learned Dr. Hunter purſue under theſe circumſtances? He approves of the exhibition of a *noſtrum*, of which he knew nothing of its compoſition or effects, and without evident proofs of its ſucceſs; but rejects the admiſſion of a plan of cure, which he himſelf had ſeen ſucceſsful. The cauſes of ſuch conduct require no animadverſion.

Numerous inſtances, which have fallen within my own obſervation, of the depraved tendency of the moſt celebrated noſtrums in vogue, convince me, that they are generally the lucrative ſtratagems of artful men, to impoſe on the credulity of the community. Were the pernicious effects of ſuch remedies as well known to the public, as their pretended virtues are extolled by their inventors, we ſhould have an equal deteſtation and abhorrence for them and their authors: but while mankind will ſuffer themſelves to be impoſed

impoſed on, ſo long will men appear who are capable of executing the impoſition. You will remember, Sir, that Lady H. took a *ſecret remedy*; the event has proved its fallibility, and it is well if it proves nothing more.

I am ſenſible, Sir, that the conſtant flattery and unlimited confidence which ſome court phyſicians receive, are often productive of a ſelf-ſufficiency and pride which lead them into errors. They eaſily perſuade themſelves, that their practice and knowledge are ſuperior to others, when the *Public* are inclined to think ſo: but the inſuperable difficulties conſtantly met with in every attempt to cure ſome diſeaſes, ſhould humble any vanity which might ariſe from ſucceſs in others.

I know, Sir, any ſolicitude to remove prejudices in men, ſo ſelf-ſufficient and ſelf-important as ſome well-received phyſicians are, is an arduous taſk. Men advanced in years, whoſe prejudices are habitual, who poſſeſs a plenitude of pride and practice, have little time for reflection. Endeavours of this nature are treated with a ſupercilious contempt; and any deſires to improve the art frequently excite

cite envy in proportion to their merit, and illiberally are termed *innovations*; they meet with every oppoſition which artifice can invent, or medical grimace furniſh. I could produce ſeveral inſtances of the moſt exalted characters, that have been perſecuted and deteſted by the faculty for what has rendered their names immortal. I ſcarce know one improvement in the hiſtory of medicine, which has not met with a ſtrong oppoſition. It is a melancholy reflection, that a man ſhould incur the diſpleaſure of the members of his profeſſion for thoſe very inventions which merit the approbation and eſteem of all mankind. Let us reflect, for a moment, on the fate of Veſalius, Harvey, and the introducers of chemical remedies, bark, antimony, and mercury; not to mention your own unmerited oppoſition to your diſcoveries in the lymphatic ſyſtem.

Yet the common modes of practice are frequently ſo inadequate to the obſtinacy of ſome diſeaſes, that I am diſpoſed to think, every rational attempt to improve our art is laudable. It is not unreaſonable to affirm, that nothing leſs than a perfect cure ſhould

ſatisfy

ſatisfy a phyſician. When the practice extends no farther than to palliate a curable diſeaſe, it plainly demonſtrates a defective knowledge. It may be preſumed, from what has been already diſcovered, that the difficulty of curing ſome diſeaſes is not owing to any defect in nature or art in ſupplying us with remedies, but to an indolence and ſelf-ſufficiency, which prevent their diſcovery. We ſhould therefore ſuſpect the ill ſucceſs to be frequently owing to a want of knowledge. The limits of human underſtanding are ſo confined, conſtitutions and diſeaſes ſo various, and the ſucceſs in many inſtances ſo doubtful, that theſe things, on a ſerious reflection, give us little reaſon to be *vain*. We ſhould always recollect how much we pretend to, and yet how little we comprehend in the immenſe fields of medical ſcience.

The confidence repoſed in a phyſician is of a very ſerious nature; and when he acts at the ſick bed, on a principle of ſuperiority over others of his profeſſion, unleſs he may be ſuppoſed quite perfect, his patients muſt ſuffer for the vanity of his imaginary triumph. We cannot be too ſuſpicious of our abilities; we

we ſhould endeavour to improve by every miſtake, and generally conclude ourſelves miſtaken, when we are not ſucceſsful. It is no diſgrace to acknowledge, but infamous and deſtructive to ſociety to perſiſt in error.

Perhaps, Sir, a few obſervations which I publiſhed in a treatiſe on the diſeaſes of the *breaſts of women*, with ſome ſtrictures on the indiſcriminate uſe of *low diet*, and the new dangerous methods of treatment *during lying-in*, may have had ſome ſhare in your oppoſing my aſſiſtance; as they might appear to attack ſome of your favourite practices in midwifery. If general cenſures of prejudices, injurious in their conſequences, was a ſufficient incentive for you to become my private enemy, I hope the readers of that little publication will find no great reaſon to agree with you. I had no intention to depreciate the reputation of any practitioner; my view, and only view, was to prevent the fatal effects of the prejudices of ſome phyſician men-midwives, who ſervilely *creep* by flattery into practice, under your auſpices.

Theſe evils were too alarming to eſcape my notice, being at that time in full mid-

wifery

wifery practice. I ſaw them with concern; but it was compaſſion for the ſufferers, not a diſlike to the practitioners, that induced me to make my obſervations. We had much to fear that the *experiments* of men ſo eminent, would become an eſtabliſhed practice—*experiments* which ſeemed to be more the *projects* of a *wanton fancy*, than the deliberate dictates of reaſon and experience: but a tenderneſs for the characters of the parties reſtrained that mode of expoſition, which a malevolent diſpoſition, perhaps, might have made uſe of.

The deſtructive effects of thoſe midwifery projects ſhould be the cauſe of their abolition: if not, I may engage in the defence of ſuffering females with leſs regard to the characters of ſome men-midwives, who have patroniſed thoſe unſkilful practices out of complaiſance to your viſionary hypotheſis.

I hope, Sir, that theſe obſervations will not only be of ſome ſervice to the public, but anſwer another purpoſe, and be an inſtruction to you. They may teach you, for the future, that a ſucceſsleſs effort in your practice ought to incite you to look farther than the limits of your own knowledge; and that every pro-

bability of relief ſhould be embraced in caſes of extreme danger. Let, then, ſome principle of benevolence, for the future, moderate your ambition: for be aſſured, that it is the approbation of one's own conſcience, which muſt give a value to the encomiums of mankind.

I am, Sir,

Your moſt obedient

Humble ſervant,

WILLIAM ROWLEY.

Sept. 29, 1774.*

* This was the original date of the letter.



A SECOND

LETTER

TO

Dr. WILLIAM HUNTER,

PHYSICIAN EXTRAORDINARY TO THE QUEEN, &c.

BEING AN

ANSWER

TO THE

ILLIBERAL CRITICISM IN THE MONTHLY REVIEW FOR NOVEMBER, 1774, ON A FORMER LETTER:

WITH

REASONS WHY THAT POISONOUS DRUG, HEMLOCK, SHOULD NEVER BE GIVEN IN CANCEROUS CASES.



INTRODUCTION.

PREVIOUS to the introduction of the ſecond letter againſt Dr. Hunter, it may be neceſſary to communicate ſome circumſtances that happened, becauſe they will throw a light on the following ſubject, and convey an idea of the manner in which Reviews may be conducted.

Captain M———, an officer high in the eſteem of the *Lord Le Deſpencer*, after ſuffering great miſery, many years, from ſcrophulous ulcers in his arms and legs, without receiving benefit from conſulting ſeveral reputable ſurgeons and phyſicians in this town, was cured by my preſcribing a proper regimen, ſmall doſes of *mercurius dulcis duodecies ſublimatus*, *præparatus aquâ lotuſque*, and *nitrum cum camphora*.

This gentleman, from gratitude and the moſt honorable motives, introduced me to *Lord Le Deſpencer*, from whom I received

many inſtances of friendſhip; and, in conſequence of my having cured Captain M—— of the ulcers that had ſo long afflicted him, was recommended by his Lordſhip to attend the caſe which is the ſubject of the preceding letter.

The cure of the cancerous ſcirrhus and ulcer of the uterus and rectum being completed, it became a ſubject of converſation amongſt ſeveral perſons of high rank, and ſome practitioners in medicine and ſurgery. If ſome of theſe latter, through envy, depreciated its merit by dark, undermining inſinuations, many friends to truth extolled the cure in a manner, perhaps, much beyond its deſert. Thus malicious reproach and eager praiſe held pace with each other. If the cure by mineral alteratives, &c., was enviouſly cenſured by one party, as an *innovation in practice*, its beneficent effects were conſidered by another as highly meritorious. When envy hiſſed, truth and juſtice applauded.

The objects of improvement, at that period, ſo much engaged my attention, that no leiſure could be appropriated to animadvert on ſub-

jects of diſputation, much leſs to regard private defamation; nor was any inclination felt to either attack or to convince opponents: this was left to repeated ſucceſsful practice, as the moſt proper baſis for erecting a permanent ſuperſtructure of uſeful knowledge.

The time is arrived, in which the few improvements I have invented are more candidly than formerly received, except by certain phyſicians, who conſider it their intereſt to depreciate or ſuppreſs all new diſcoveries.

A formidable body of medical enemies had erected the ſtandard of oppoſition to the doctrines I had advanced on the cure of *ulcerated legs without reſt*, which were ſolemnly conſidered, as ſome declared, profeſſional annuities. The cenſures I had publiſhed on the malpractices of ſome projecting men-midwives, awakened their apprehenſions: amongſt theſe was Dr. Hunter. Shielded, however, as I conceived myſelf, by truth, all their private injuries, or falſehoods, were diſregarded, for no one *ſuo nomine* publicly aſſailed my ſtrictures. My greateſt crimes, however, I believe,

believe, were the acquiring extenſive practice, and illuſtrious friends.

Whoever wiſhes to improve a ſcience, in which the members are compoſed of a mixture of men of extenſive deep learning, with great integrity and honor; and ſome of very circumſcribed knowledge, with great pretenſions and ſelf-intereſted motives: it would be loſing time to little purpoſe either to liſten to illiberal, unmerited cenſure, to be elated by over-ſtrained praiſe, or to enter into endleſs diſputation with rancorous private enemies, whoſe approbation would be a real diſgrace.

I need only declare, that on my abſolutely refuſing my friend, Captain M——, to ſuffer any alterations in my former letter, I was threatened, unleſs I depoſited *fifty pounds* for ſome anonymous ſcribbler or critic, to have myſelf and letter abuſed. I treated the propoſal with laughter, and the menace with contempt. The conſequence of which was the admiſſion, probably, of the curious invective and pſeudo criticiſm of my amiable opponent: it was, probably, the joint production of the terrifying critic and Dr. Hunter.

It

It attacks virulently my perſon and former occupation as a ſurgeon, as though a man could be a leſs-learned phyſician for having been a teacher of anatomy, midwifery, and ſurgery, branches of ſcience I lectured on, long before I obtained my regular degree as a Doctor of Medicine. If ſuch groſs abſurdities were admiſſible, which ſome, through ignorance or deſign, have dared to promulgate, it would follow, the leſs a man knows of the ſeparate branches of his profeſſion, or the leſs knowledge a man obtains in the art, ſo much the greater muſt his ſkill be in practice. This is ſo palpable a contradiction to truth and reaſon, that ideots would laugh at the aſſertion, and yet, confined knowledge is often ſupported by a gravity and reſerved ſelf-importance, as though it were equal to extenſive erudition.

It is ſufficient for the world to know, that amidſt many phyſicians, who are an honor to human nature, certain heterogeneous oppoſite characters have, do, and perhaps ever will, exiſt; ill-educated doctors, and other appendages to medicine, who, with very ſcanty pro-

profeſſional knowledge or practical ſkill, have, by accidental circumſtances, various artifices, or daring pretenſions, paſſed for the greateſt ornaments of the art, having obtained, by ſtratagem, a great run of practice, the ear, and unlimited confidence of mankind. Under ſuch circumſtances, what can be expected but miſinterpretation, falſe judgment, and oppoſition to every innovation or generous attempt at excellence, or the advancement of learning? Men are only true judges of merit, and are moſt ready to acknowledge the ſkill and genius of others, who poſſeſs ſuperior merit and judgment themſelves.

The reiterated under-hand attempts to injure my medical character, have often increaſed friends and reputation. Mankind determine by ſucceſsful facts, not by ſpecious profeſſions. A phyſician who has ſeen eight or nine thouſand diſeaſed poor annually, for above twenty years, muſt be conſidered experienced. He becomes too publickly known to receive much injury from the private ſlanders of thoſe whoſe ſlender experience

and

and practice were never directed to any objects, except pecuniary emolument and mean detraction. The world hears the falſe, malignant aſſertions, and laughs at the envy of the miſerable inventors. Theſe obſervations are promulgated, to guard ſociety againſt the ſhafts of malice, too often directed againſt the moſt zealous and humane attempts to alleviate human miſery.

A SECOND

LETTER,

&c. &c.

SIR,

THE trifling evaſions, in the Monthly Review for November 1774, to ſcreen you from the juſt reſentment of the Public, were unworthy of my attention, did it not appear from ſome circumſtances, that you are either the author or dictator of that criticiſm. I ſhall, therefore, ſubmit the following quotations to the conſideration of the Public:

" The circumſtances on which he lays his " greateſt ſtreſs is, that he ſucceeded in the " cure of *Miſs* S., who had been under Dr.

" Hunter's

" Hunter's care, and whom he had given up " as incurable." &c.

If, Sir, you had cautiouſly examined my letter, you might have obſerved that the word *Miſs* is in no part of it. Where, then, did an anonymous Reviewer receive information that it was a *Miſs* S.? Moſt certainly from you, or ſome of your friends.

" Dr. Hunter ſaw the patient (*Miſs* S.) " after the cure; but it was not before " Lady H———'s death: and *we now under-* " *ſtand* that the lady was ſhewn to Dr. Hunter, " that Dr. Rowley might have it to ſay, that " he had ſeen her, and had reaſon to think " ſhe was well; and, by confounding the " tenſes of his verbs, make the reader think " it was before, when it was ſome time after, " Lady H———'s death."

I have not mentioned the exact time when the lady, M. S., viſited Dr. Hunter, nor did I think it material. I thought it would be a great ſatisfaction to Dr. Hunter to know, that a cancerous ulcer of the uterus had been cured, and that I had invented a more rational method for the cure of ſuch complaints,

plaints, which ever before were conſidered incurable. When the lady was perfectly recovered, from a humane wiſh that others in ſimilar circumſtances might be relieved, ſhe viſited you, whom herſelf and family conſidered as a humane phyſician, and that you would rejoice at ſo pleaſing and unexpected an event. You ſpoke in the higheſt terms of the cure; and this was poſitively before I was propoſed to be conſulted by Lady H———.

As to what Reviewers ſay, they *now underſtand*, &c., it is clear that they received their underſtanding from you. I ſhall, therefore, conſider you as the author, and the criticiſm an anſwer to my letter; containing all you can advance in vindication of your conduct.

For, if you had publicly refuted any of the charges againſt you, your friends would have acted nobly in pleading the cauſe of injured innocence; but have not they publiſhed your private and partial intelligence? Have they not become warm and zealous partizans, when they ſhould have obſerved the ſtricteſt neutrality? Is it conſiſtent with the charac-

characters of impartial critics to publiſh what you, a vindictive enemy, might ſay or feel on the ſubject of my letter? and yet their criticiſm is nothing elſe. On the ſame principle might they have ſaid that the whole of the cure was a fiction. In what view, therefore, ſhould we conſider the productions of ſuch partial writers? How can they expect the confidence of the Public, when it is notorious that they proſtitute their work to anſwer the purpoſes of party malice? For will any cool unprejudiced reader, conſider that cavilling criticiſm on my letter in any other light than the rancorous production of a malignant private enemy, ſtimulated by envy and malice, without ſufficient courage to openly avow his miſerable reſentments?

But, Sir, to give you every advantage you can reaſonably wiſh, I will examine part of your criticiſm, and candidly anſwer your objections.

Your principal objection is, that you was unacquainted with my ſucceſs in the cure of M. S. when I was propoſed to be conſulted by Lady H———. You admit of my being men-

mentioned to you. Can it then be reaſonably ſuppoſed that you was unacquainted with the cauſe? For it was in conſequence of my having cured M. S. that my aſſiſtance was urged. The noble lady who recommended me ſent the abſtract, which contained a conciſe account of the cure, to H——— Houſe. It was on a preſumption that this abſtract was produced to you, or that you was verbally informed of this cure, that I ſaid you was acquainted with my ſucceſs. I could not naturally think otherwiſe; and will any other perſon imagine that I could be propoſed to you without a reaſon being aſſigned? The noble friends of the deceaſed lady, perhaps from motives of politeneſs, might not mention you as the unſucceſsful phyſician; but there is little reaſon to doubt of your well knowing that ſuch a cure had been effected, for you had repeatedly ſeen the lady after the cure.

The lady M. S. had been cured a conſiderable time: her caſe had been publiſhed, both in my Treatiſe on the Cure of ulcerated Legs, and in the abſtract I have

juſt

juſt mentioned; but, from motives of tenderneſs to the characters of the phyſicians who had been conſulted, I concealed their names. In my former letter to you I have even avoided criticiſing on the practices relative to the cure of M. S. I may perhaps be leſs ſcrupulous on ſuch occaſions hereafter. This conduct of mine, however, proves that I had no intention of depreciating or injuring the character of any gentleman: nor could I, without violating my feelings, well knowing every thing in their ſkill or power was attempted. But when I was quite poſitive that the accompliſhment of the very cure in which you had failed was the cauſe of my recommendation, and that you oppoſed me, I appeal to every diſpaſſionate perſon, whether I had not a juſt right to bring you forth to the public view? Believe me, Sir, I have not the leaſt perſonal animoſity to you; it is your illiberal and ſelfiſh actions which I have cenſured. I hope it will be allowed, by unbiaſſed judges, that my former letter is written in a gentle manner, and that you are treated with great moderation. I am

greatly

greatly miſtaken if it be not clear of any ſcurrility, invective, or perſonal abuſe. Then why have you taken the advantage of conveying, through an anonymous production, any illiberal invectives on me? I conſidered it a matter of no importance, whether the perſon oppoſed was myſelf or any other phyſician or ſurgeon; for it would have been equally illiberal and inhuman. For if we were to allow that you was quite unacquainted with the cauſe of my being propoſed, ſtill the facts, that you oppoſed aſſiſtance, that your patient died, and that I poſitively cured a lady whom you, Dr. Fothergill, and others, declared incurable, remain uncontrovertible. You acknowledge, Sir, for I ſhall conſider the criticiſm yours, that your oppoſition to me was not in the "*kindeſt and civileſt way.*" Are theſe terms adequate to the treatment of your noble patient? Are lives to be ſported with, if I may uſe the expreſſion, and when patients periſh, not improbably from the pride and obſtinacy of phyſicians, are *kindeſt* and *civileſt* the proper expreſſions on ſuch occaſions? No; there are

other

other terms certainly more applicable to ſuch unfeeling practices.

And did you ſeriouſly think, Sir, that I was to be ſilenced by you in the character of a Reviewer? or that your unhappy feelings, artfully conveyed through that channel, would have paſſed unnoticed? Indeed you ſeem ſo tranſported by anger, envy, and revenge, that you have loſt your uſual circumſpection, and your warm advocates, the Reviewers, ſuffering your malice to paſs through their vehicle of *learning* and *knowledge*, have become your greateſt enemies. You ſeem now reduced to a truly pitiable ſituation, though, from your dignity of ſtation, the intimate friend of ſo many *learned ſcholars*, who, with a thoughtleſs imprudence, have eſpouſed your deſperate cauſe. Could not their diſcerning eyes, ſo capable of detecting the errors and inaccuracies of others, diſcover thoſe fatal inadvertencies of *Miſs*, &c.? Could not this learned body produce ſomething which had leſs the appearance of partiality and perſonal pique? But it only ſerves to prove to me, that abi-

lities,

lities, when engaged in an unjuſt cauſe, are only capable of uſing little mean artifices, evaſions, and perſonal ſcurrility; which have expoſed you to freſh cenſures, and muſt render them and their work contemptible in the opinion of every ſenſible and candid perſon. For while a critical production of this nature is conducted with erudition, juſtice, and impartiality, it is of public utility; but when it is open for parties in any diſpute to vent their anonymous malice or ill nature, it then becomes a public nuiſance. But, perhaps, Sir, you have been greatly relieved by this delivery of your anger and reſentment. This vent of the paſſions may have removed that preſſure on the mind the conciouſneſs of an error might have occaſioned.

The epithets which you have ſo liberally beſtowed on me as "enterpriſing ſurgeon, ill "reception amongſt the grandees of the pro-"feſſion, ſingle combat with one of them," &c. Such impotent malice I ſmile at, and am not a little entertained at ſuch poor labored wit. It is my determined reſolution not only to combat ſingly, but in general, whatever doctrines in phyſic are pernicious

to

to the community; and I will with induſtry perſevere in every uſeful plan which can advance or improve the profeſſion. I conſider this to be the duty of every phyſician. You, or the Reviewers, whom I ſhall always hereafter conſider the ſame, may call it *enterprifing*; but patients afflicted with the moſt deplorable diſeaſes, without hopes of relief, when perfectly cured, and enjoying the bleſſings of health, will think ſuch *enterprifes* laudable. Neither the ribaldry of malevolent anonymous writers, nor the miſerable feelings of a man tranſported with rage at being told the truth, and hurried by his impetuoſity to inadvertencies, will ever diſturb my tranquillity.

After thus diſmiſſing your curious evaſions, give me leave to introduce you as a principal actor in ſome new ſcenes: and, as you have diſtinguiſhed yourſelf in an oppoſite point of view, I ſhall firſt recite an inſtance where you ſeemed to act with humanity.

In the beginning of November, 1774, about five weeks after the publication of my letter, you was conſulted by Mrs. P. in your neighbourhood, who you ſaid had a cancerous

ulcer of the womb. You declared your incapacity to relieve her, and in the preſence of another perſon ſaid that ſuch diſeaſes were incurable; but that you knew of a phyſician who pretended to cure the cancer; that though you was not in amity with him, on account of a letter he had publiſhed againſt you on the death of Lady H., yet you would recommend him; and you afterwards ſent a direction, with my name and place of abode, to the unhappy patient. She was ſuffering the moſt extreme tortures, equal to the ſtrongeſt labor pains, and could not obtain any eaſe, but was continually ſhifting from one part of the room to another; nor could ſhe get a minute's ſleep night or day. She had been under ſeveral practitioners, both French and Engliſh, without obtaining the leaſt relief. This patient, though in indigent circumſtances, and incapable of giving any gratuity for my aſſiſtance, I immediately undertook the care of; and about a week after I was informed that you had recommended me. Though it was no difficult thing to conceive the reaſon of your deſiring that I might not be acquainted, that you had recommended

mended to me this poor woman till I had undertaken her relief, yet, as I conſidered that I was doing a humane act, I cheerfully gave her every aſſiſtance in my power, and viſited her daily; and in a little time ſhe was ſo much better as to obtain her natural reſt, her pains were abated, and the ichor ſoon had a more favorable appearance. I ſhall now recite the other inſtance, in which I could have wiſhed that you had been influenced by humane motives to have relieved an unfortunate and miſerable patient.

Mrs. S. was afflicted with a large ſcirrhus of the uterus, and cancerous ulcer. She had been under your care, which candor forbids me to ſay is any reflection on your character, after receiving no relief, or any probability of a cure, from thoſe learned and celebrated Doctors Levret and Petit, and ſeveral other phyſicians and accoucheurs at Paris.

In this caſe you ſtill followed your favorite plan. You directed the *hemlock bath*, *hemlock in pills*, twenty-four of which were taken daily, as I was informed by the Apothecary*.

A ſolu-

* Some of theſe very pills are in my poſſeſſion.

A ſolution of opium, which the lady brought from France, was taken, ſomething ſimilar to our liquid laudanum, to eaſe the violent pains; for ſhe had been in ſuch excruciating tortures, that for five weeks before ſhe left Paris, and ſix weeks after ſhe became your patient, ſhe had not ſlept five minutes, either day or night, owing to the violent and conſtant pains ſhe ſuffered. Her body was much emaciated, her face and lips were pale, and ſeveral other unfavorable circumſtances likewiſe attended the patient, which you are well acquainted with.

To this lady you could not plead any ignorance of my ſucceſs in ſuch caſes; becauſe you had ſeveral weeks before, in conſequence of my having cured a ſimilar caſe, recommended me to the other.

After attending Mr. S. about ſix weeks, you acquainted her that you had conſulted Sir John Pringle, Phyſician to Her Majeſty, on her caſe, and you adviſed her to ſettle her affairs while ſhe retained her ſenſes, for that Sir John and yourſelf were of opinion that it was impoſſible to cure her. This the unfortunate lady received with as much reſignation

nation as the nature of her caſe admitted of. When I firſt viſited her, in conſequence of her having read my former letter to you, ſhe was actually engaged, with the aſſiſtance of her domeſtics, in preparing an inventory of her effects, ſeriouſly expecting either the loſs of ſenſes or of life.

After thus ſtating theſe recent facts, the public, I hope, will not think it inconſiſtent in me to aſk a few queſtions on theſe very important and ſerious occaſions.

On what principle did you recommend to me one patient, and withhold my aſſiſtance to the other? Did not both equally require aſſiſtance? Was it becauſe a cure, if effected in the firſt inſtance, might have remained for ever in obſcurity, and ſucceſs in the other might leſſen your reputation? Or did you artfully ſearch for the firſt, and introduce a patient in ſo deſperate a condition, only to injure me if I did not ſucceed? Though it is certainly unreaſonable to expect that I am to cure every miſerable caſe that comes under my care, at a time when all other phyſicians conſider it incurable, or in a diſeaſe that in all ages has been thought incurable; neither ought

ought the utility of my new methods to be determined by any ſuch deſperate and unfair trials.

How could you ſuffer Mrs. S. to languiſh under the moſt excruciating tortures, when you acknowledged yourſelf unacquainted with any method to relieve, much leſs to cure her dreadful diſorder? You have viſited this lady ſince ſhe has been under my care, you have ſeen the preſcriptions, and you was informed that ſhe reſted every night, was in little pain during the day, and you ſeemed to expreſs great ſatisfaction on this pleaſing occaſion. You found that the lady could walk erect, which ſhe had not been able to do before for many months. Theſe good effects of my new alterative methods you are witneſs to, though the patient had been but three weeks under my care when you viſited her. She is now much more recovered. What was your anſwer when ſhe aſked you why you had not recommended me to attend her, as well as the pauper you had recommended me to? You gravely told her that you intended it, when you was convinced that I had cured the other. But, Sir, was it not

cruel

cruel to wait, and let a patient ſuffer extreme miſery, in expectation of relief, if I relieved another, which was probably above the reach of the medical art? You certainly cannot be ſo ignorant in your profeſſion as not to know that your laſt patient muſt have periſhed, while the other was obtaining a cure, if curable. For is it not rational to ſuppoſe that ſuch inveterate and horrid diſeaſes require a conſiderable time to eradicate? But if you was only acting as a ſpectator in Mrs. S.'s caſe, waiting the event of my ſucceſs in Mrs. P.'s caſe, why did you ſo liberally order the hemlock? Why were the ſame poiſonous remedies preſcribed in thoſe very forms in which they had been adminiſtered without ſucceſs, but probably with injury, in the caſes of Lady H. and M. S.? Why did you adviſe Mrs. S. to prepare for her unhappy fate? Were you in expectation that the faſhionable and deſtructive drug, *hemlock*, would, as before, occaſion a loſs of memory? Did you expect that the laudanum would have lulled the miſerable patient into inſenſibility, and by that means render her incapable of

of complying, if relief was offered? When have theſe remedies, even in the leaſt, alleviated the ſymptoms without impairing the mental faculties? Can any one ſay you was waiting the iſſue of my ſucceſs, when it is evident that you was ordering the moſt deleterious medicines? Let the Public now judge of your conduct; for what dependance can be placed in a man who acts in ſo oppoſite a manner? How can we reconcile all that appearance, ſo conſpicuous in your deportment, of extreme tenderneſs for your patients, when, by your actions, you ſeem to be devoid of all thoſe fine feelings, candor, and humanity, which ſhould ever influence a phyſician.

I ſhall now make ſome obſervations on that deſtructive and poiſonous drug, *hemlock*, for the faſhion of giving it ſeems to prevail with ſuch unremitting ardor, that the Public might be inclined to think favorably of it, and really imagine it to be uſeful in true cancers.

We have great reaſon to believe that the famous Phyſician Storck, of Vienna, was poſitively a deceiver; and whoever reads the epiſtle on the *hemlock*, which was publiſhed

above nine years ago by the learned Profeſſor De Haen, at Vienna, may be convinced of this. This gentleman and many others gave it a fair trial in the cancer, but without any ſucceſs, as will appear by the following paſſages:

In his Epiſtle *De Cicuta*, page 13, after proving, from the written teſtimonies of ſeveral phyſicians and ſurgeons, that the hemlock had been tried in ſeveral diſeaſes, but without ſucceſs in the cancer, he ſays,

* Liceat, vir eruditiſſime, hæc ſingulatim examinare. Deprehendimus primo ex eis, qui vero ſcirrho aut cancro laborarunt, nullum ſeu nullam (pleræque enim fœminæ ſunt) curatum

* "Give me leave, moſt learned Sir, to examine this particularly. We perceive, firſt, that out of thirty-ſix perſons who labored under the true ſcirrhus and cancer, none were cured; thirty of them died miſerably, and the other ſix remain incurable: and we find the ſame thing particularly obſerved by the practitioners at Breſlaw; namely, we read, that the excellent Surgeon Hauptmann confeſſes openly, that he never cured a manifeſt cancer with hemlock; neither did he ever know an inſtance of its being cured by any other perſon. The moſt ingenious Surgeon Beer ſays, that he has ſeen no one who has cured the cancer, and that he never cured one himſelf. The moſt expert Phyſician Wicke ſays, that the hemlock

ratum eſſe, earumdemque 30 miſere periiſſe, et 6 incurabiles manſiſſe. Advertimus quoque hoc peculiariter à practicis *Breſlavienſibus* eſſe notatum. Scilicet, egregium chirurgum *Hauptmann* aperte fatentem legimus, *apertum cancrum nunquam ſe cicutâ curaſſe, nec curatum a quopiam noſſe.* Dexterrimum chirurgum *Beer*, cancrum a nemine curatum ſe vidiſſe, nec ſe unquam illum curaſſe. Exper. medicum *Wicke*, cancro nunquam profuiſſe cicutam. Experti itaque idem ſunt *Breſlavienſes* quod ego, quod Viennæ multi mecum, quod centeni medici *Galli, Itali, Germani, Angli, Bolgæ toties, experti ſunt.*

P. 62. Horrorem profecto omnium per Europam medicorum animis incutiat oportet

" hemlock has never been uſeful in the cure of the cancer. There-
" fore the Breſlaw phyſicians, and many other phyſicians at Vi-
" enna, likewiſe hundreds of phyſicians, French, Italians,
" Germans, Engliſh, Dutch, have often experienced the ſame
" as myſelf."

P. 62. " Indeed the ſad remembrance of thouſands of
" women, who have been untimely deſtroyed in the ſpace of
" the laſt ſeven years by this plant (hemlock), or have been
" prevented from the ſalutary uſe of the knife, muſt ſtrike
" the minds of all the phyſicians throughout Europe with
" horror."

memoria

memoria triſtis millenarum mulierum, quas ab elapſo retro ſeptennio hæc planta aut longe præmaturius occiderit, aut unico ſalubri ferro detraxerit.

Though this has been publiſhed nine years, yet ſo indolent do the practitioners ſeem in this country, that few know theſe very important facts; for it is preſcribed with as much ardor and ill-effect as ever *. Have not immenſe quantities of Storck's extract been imported to moſt parts of Europe? but where are any poſitive proofs of a perfect cancer being cured by it? But how can it be expected, when we are certain that Storck, who introduced it, had impoſed on the Public, which has been poſitively proved by Profeſſor De Haen, a Court Phyſician living at Vienna, whoſe certain intelligence cannot be doubted? If this be the truth, what phyſician then can with a ſafe conſcience preſcribe it? And yet there are few phyſicians who do not conſtantly order it in cancerous and even other caſes; and why? Becauſe it is

* When I was at *Vienna* I ſaw forty pounds of extract of hemlock at the great hoſpital; but I ſought in vain for any one perſon cured of a *true cancer* by this drug.

is faſhionable. I could produce ſeveral ſuch ſtriking inſtances of the deſtructive effects of phyſical faſhions, and the abſurd, unthinking credulity of its members. Should ſuch a drug be preſcribed, when it is clearly proved that it does not anſwer its reſolvent intention? We know *hemlock* to be a ſtrong poiſon; and how are phyſicians certain that its noxious qualities do not frequently haſten death? I confeſs, that though I would heartily engage in the promotion of every medical improvement, yet I cannot help conſidering every phyſician in error who preſcribes hemlock, unleſs merely as an anodyne. I perhaps have ſeen more cancerous caſes than any other phyſician, but have never yet met with one patient who has taken it with advantage; nay, in many it has produced loſs of memory, violent pains in the head, convulſions, and, in ſome inſtances, I have had great reaſon to conclude that it has proved fatal *. As other phyſicians muſt have been convinced of its inefficacy

* An inſtance of this ſort happened. A young Major in the army, formerly a patient of Mr. Neſbit's, Great Marlborough Street, took ſo much, as a remedy for a ſpreading ulcer, as to deſtroy life, though warned of the conſequence.

inefficacy and dangerous qualities, why do they conſtantly preſcribe it? I have ſeen many recipes of reſpectable phyſicians in town, who have repeatedly preſcribed this noxious drug without any advantage, and yet theſe very men conſtantly perſevere in the uſe of it. When I have mentioned objections to ſuch practices, I have been queſtioned, what can be done in ſuch deſperate caſes? I anſwer, it would be a more conſcientious part in a phyſician never to preſcribe either *opium* or *hemlock*, when no good effects are produced. Rather let us ſeek for new methods, and let us embrace ſuch diſcoveries with a becoming generoſity and candor, inſtead of envy and oppoſition from ſelfiſhneſs or pride. While a ſpirit of perſecution prevails againſt every man who ſhakes off vulgar prejudices to improve the art, there is little encouragement to make known any new improvements.

Nothing but a ſincere deſire to ſerve mankind could induce me to publiſh theſe methods; for which has been experienced rancor and illiberality. Any reformation, however, in the parties is more to be wiſhed for than expected. I may appear warm againſt that

that poiſonous drug, *hemlock*; but ſhould be equally animated to praiſe its virtues, were I not convinced, from ſeveral years experience, that it does not ſucceed in curing cancerous caſes.

I ſhall now, in vindication of my character, explain to the Public ſome points mentioned in the Monthly Review, which have a tendency to injure me in the opinion of mankind and the profeſſion. In that work is inſerted,

" We have had occaſion more than once to " review the productions of this writer, but " then he was in an humbler character than " that which he now ſuſtains; it was that of " an *enterpriſing ſurgeon, advertiſing a great* " *number of cures in cancerous, venereal, and* " *other caſes.*"

From the foregoing aſſertions, an uninformed reader would conclude that I had advertiſed quack puffs, or relations of my cures, in the newſpapers; or had vended ſome quack medicine. If the Reviewers mean it in this light, I can only anſwer, that they have inſerted a poſitive falſhood. If it be meant that my medical pamphlets are adver-

tiſements,

tiſements, I ſhall only anſwer ſuch malevolent inſinuations by informing the public of the nature of thoſe productions. In doing this I am reduced to a ſituation by no means deſirable; for if I were to remain ſilent, the Public might think their illiberal charges true: if I anſwer, I am obliged to ſpeak of myſelf in a manner which may excite diſguſt and ſuſpicion in the minds of the readers. It frequently happens, that what a man ſays in favor of himſelf is partial, as we are too apt to flatter our own abilities. If, then, I ſhould be rather warm in defending my own cauſe, it is hoped every candid perſon will recollect, that I have been publicly accuſed of actions beneath the dignity of the profeſſion of which I am a member, and that I muſt tamely ſuffer an injury from the dark attacks of anonymous writers, and envious malignant whiſperers, or refute them by the following facts.

After the advantages of as regular a ſurgical, anatomical, and medical education as this metropolis could give, or induſtry and ſtudy acquire, I went young into the King's ſervice in the war between this country,

France,

France, and Spain, from the beginning of 1761 to the end of that war. This I conſidered the proper ſchool of experience for a young man. About fourteen years ago, ſeeing the defects and ill-ſucceſs in curing old ulcers of the legs, I invented a new method of cure *without reſt*, by altering the ſtate of the blood, and removing the cauſe of acrimony by diet and mineral alteratives, nitre, &c. After repeated trials, and experience in different parts of Europe, the Weſt-Indies, and America, I ſettled in London, my native place, though a North Briton has preſumed to call me a *ſtranger*. I made it my conſtant endeavour to improve on the plan of curing ulcers; and conſidering ſuch a diſcovery, if well known in the profeſſion, might prove of public utility, I publiſhed the new methods about ſix years ago. In this eſſay was related faithfully the very means which had proved ſo ſucceſsful, illuſtrating the whole with a great number of well-authenticated caſes. In theſe were ſeveral inſtances of perſons cured, who had been afflicted from three or four years, to between thirty and forty years, with obſtinate ulcers, incurable by

any

any other means; and many reſpectable perſons are now living teſtimonies of the facts. Several of theſe very patients had been unſucceſsfully treated by the moſt eminent phyſicians and ſurgeons in this metropolis *.

I clearly refuted the prejudiced doctrine, that it is dangerous to cure old ulcers, and that gradually altering the habit by mineral alteratives, given in the mildeſt and gentleſt manner, every ſort of ulcer is curable, whether callous, putrid, or fiſtulous, without danger to the conſtitution; nay, the conſtitution of patients is amended by this method, for I have ever conſidered the ulcer to be owing to a ſcorbutic habit, conſequently nothing is more neceſſary than to alter it. I have had ſeveral well-authenticated facts of the ſucceſs of theſe new methods in France, Italy, and Germany; in which laſt country the Eſſay has been tranſlated. Great has been the advantages in the Weſt Indies and America, and in every part of England, where the practitioners have been influenced by a deſire to cure their patients, without any animoſity or envy to the inventor. From this

* See Treatiſe on the Cure of Ulcers, 4th Edition.

this conſtant practice, and making my houſe many years a receptacle for the afflicted poor, the numbers of which were ſeldom leſs than from ten to twelve thouſand annually in various diſeaſes, I had frequent opportunities of extending the utility of theſe and other methods, and improving them. I then began to conſider that other ulcers might be cured by a ſimilar plan. It was found I could reſolve the calloſity which commonly ſurrounds old ulcers; and from analogous reaſoning I conceived that the cellular membrane of one part might be ſoftened by the ſame means which reſolved the induration of the other.

The induration about the anus, which is frequently productive of the fiſtula, has been cured, and often the fiſtula itſelf, by alteratives, fumigations, ſponge tent, or mercurial injections. I next imagined that a ſimilar method, with the addition of more penetrating remedies, would prove uſeful in glandular diſeaſes, as the King's evil, and the occult cancer of the breaſts. I could often reſolve the hardneſſes of the breaſts, which happen during lying-in, or from other cauſes. From being engaged in a very extenſive prac-

tice of midwifery, and readily attending the poor for ſeveral years, I had vaſt opportunities of experience. When I had a ſufficient number of proofs, and finding that the common methods of treating the breaſt, during lying-in, was the cauſe of many diſaſterous events, I publiſhed my thoughts on the ſubject, in a ſmall Treatiſe on the Diſeaſes of the Breaſts of Women, the method of preventing the cancer, ſome obſervations on the indiſcriminate uſe of low diet during lying-in, and other modern prejudices in the practice of midwifery. For this little production I received the encomiums of many of the learned in different parts of Europe.

I was afterwards induced to believe, that *if diſeaſes of one glandular part were curable, that others might likewiſe be ſo*; therefore the next attempts were on the ſcrophula, or King's evil, and ſeveral caſes were cured. I then extended my thoughts to cure the indurations of the breaſts without cutting, or any external application, and cured ſome few recent cancerous breaſts which were condemned to be cut off. This emboldened me to attempt to cure the ulcer of the uterus, or

womb, cancerous induration, and cancerous ulcers of other parts. I am happy to find the practice is ſometimes, though not always, attended with unexpected ſucceſs; I call it unexpected, for ſeldom have patients applied until reduced to the greateſt extremity and danger, and given up, as loſt, by other phyſicians. The ulcer in the womb is too often miſtaken for the fluor albus, ſtone, &c., and if treated as ſuch, may prove an irreparable miſchief to the patient. If now and then a patient may be liberated in ſome of theſe deſperate inſtances, which can be clearly proved, how much eaſier would a cure be effected in the early ſtages of this terrible diſorder, when it is miſtaken for ſome other? how many agonizing tortures might be prevented to thoſe who are the unfortunate victims of this deplorable diſeaſe?

Improvements in Diſeaſes of the Eyes.

From frequent obſervation I diſcovered that the common methods of treating diſeaſes of the eyes were very defective, cruel, and unſucceſsful. With unwearied diligence I applied myſelf to make improvements in the cure

cure of theſe diſeaſes, after examining with attention, the doctrines of the ancients and moderns. I firſt diſcovered, that in many inſtances the moſt violent inflammation could be cured in about twenty-four or forty-eight hours on my principles, if no injurious external applications had been uſed. This led me to examine accurately the other diſeaſes of the eyes, as the cataract, gutta ſerena, opacity of the cornea, &c.

In many inſtances of the gutta ſerena I have reſtored but few perſons to ſight, though I have been very induſtrious in my attempts.

In the opacity of the cornea and cataract, I have invented and publiſhed a new method to reſtore ſight chiefly by internal medicines. Between thirty and forty patients, who were blind, have now perfect ſight, and are living witneſſes of this important diſcovery *.

In the cataract, where the operation is abſolutely neceſſary, I have invented inſtruments which render more facile this operation, and have had conſiderable ſucceſs in the extraction of the cataract, which is well known to ſome practitioners

* See Treatiſe on 118 Diſeaſes of the Eyes, Eyelids, &c.; with new methods of reſtoring defective or loſt viſion.

practitioners in this town. My inſtruments, I hope, will be a conſiderable acquiſition to the province of ſurgery, and the method uſed to prevent the inflammation in this operation will be of no ſmall ſervice to the patient.

In conſequence of theſe improvements, I publiſhed a treatiſe on the principal diſeaſes of the eyes, containing a criticiſm on the ancient and modern methods of cure, with obſervations on the preſent defective modes of treatment, and new and mild methods for the cure of diſeaſes of this organ, with the danger of applying poultices to the eyes, and other external applications. This work has received more encomiums than, perhaps, it merited: in a future treatiſe I hope to introduce many new improvements, the reſult of much experience and theoretical reflection.

As to advertiſing cures in cancerous caſes, it is an abſolute falſehood, unleſs publiſhing a few remarkable caſes at the end of my treatiſe on the cure of ulcerated legs be called advertiſing. One is a remarkable inſtance of a man who loſt part of his upper jaw-bone, five fore teeth, the palate bones were deſtroyed, the ſeptum, or the part which divides the noſtrils,

noſtrils, was deſtroyed, the whole mouth and inward part of the noſe were continued foul corroding ulcers. This poor man was perfectly cured by cinnabarine fumigations, &c., in five weeks, in the depth of winter, after he had been for advice for near two years to every hoſpital in town, and to many eminent phyſicians and ſurgeons. This fact is known to ſeveral men in the profeſſion, of no inconſiderable eminence.

Another inſtance is of the cure of a ſcirrhus of the teſticle and cancerous ulcers of the ſcrotum, which was condemned to be cut off by an eminent ſurgeon. This cancerous caſe I perfectly cured, and many others, by Plummer's pills, nitre, and fumigation.

As to advertiſing cures in venereal caſes, it is likewiſe as untrue as the reſt. Indeed I have communicated to the world, in a pamphlet, a method of curing the freſh contracted gonorrhœa, by a new and ſafe injection, compoſed of *ol. amygdal. dulc. argent. viv.* and *mucilage of gum arabic*, with few medicines, and have given my reaſons why all rough remedies are injurious to the conſtitution. I cannot conceive that publiſhing an

uſeful

uſeful invention is derogatory to the character of a phyſician: if it be, I acknowledge myſelf guilty in ſeveral inſtances.

Theſe works were the offspring of ardent endeavours, in the early part of life, to detect prejudices, and obviate their evil tendency: but a much larger work occupies my attention, namely, the *Schola Medicinæ*, in Latin, containing the neweſt improvements in every branch of medical ſcience; but I doubt much whether I may live to ſee it completed *.

Thus I have endeavoured, in my own vindication, to ſtate a number of facts, in which I hope it will be found that I have abided by the ſtricteſt truth. I have, therefore, a right to claim the diſcovery of curing ulcerated legs *without reſt*, *reſtoring defective and loſt viſion*, in many inſtances, by *internal medicines* only, and removing in ſome caſes that inveterate diſeaſe, the recent cancer. Theſe are the *enterpriſes* I have engaged in; the ſucceſs gives a pleaſure and ſatisfaction which is inexpreſſible—a ſatisfaction unknown to narrow, contracted minds. Whether ſuch *enterpriſes*

* The firſt volume is now almoſt ready for publication, containing 54 copper plates.

terpriſes deſerve calumnies and detraction, whether a reputation raiſed by ſuch purſuits ſhould be privately injured by thoſe who have caught the ear of mankind by artifices, and who are indolent themſelves, let the world determine. But perhaps the Reviewers might mean, by *enterpriſing*, that I was a raſh practitioner. If ſo, I can only appeal to all the faculty who have read my works, they, I believe, will do me the juſtice to acknowledge, that I never preſcribe any violent or irritating medicine, except on rational principles.

Thus it muſt appear, that whatever was the meaning of you, or the Reviewers, in charging me with being an enterpriſing ſurgeon, unleſs you meant it as an honourable diſtinction, that you have not adhered to truth. This is ſufficient to determine what dependance ſhould be placed on the other parts of the criticiſm; for if this be falſe and groundleſs, what probability is there that any other part is true? But I ſhall proceed, in the examination of this curious production.

Were I to expatiate on the language and groſs tautology of this flimſy criticiſm, and the unpreciſe meaning of moſt of the ſentences,

ces, I might enlarge on the ſubject; but to cavil at words is not my intention; I ſhall leave that for thoſe whoſe province it is, thoſe dealers in words, the Monthly Reviewers.

" We ſee him raiſed into the *higher* ſphere " of medicine; where, however, not being " well received amongſt the grandees of the " faculty, he challanges one of them to ſin- " gle combat; but we fear he will be diſ- " comfited," &c.

How came the Reviewers to aſſert that I was not well received? Where did they receive their information? Are the Reviewers phyſicians? or have ſome of the grandees of the faculty, as they are called, applied to them to make ſuch an aſſertion? Becauſe I declare it to be falſe and groundleſs. It is my happineſs to be known and reſpected by ſeveral men of learning in the profeſſion in this country, and other parts of Europe.

" But we *fear* he will be diſcomfited," &c. In this the Reviewers, or rather you, Dr. Hunter, have been miſtaken; ſo that your fears are ill founded and groundleſs.

" We are ſorry that his acceſſion of dignity " has not introduced him among *ſcholars*, " who

" who would have given him a little aſſiſt-
" ance."

And ſo it ſeems that you and the Reviewers are ſorry. I am much obliged to you and them for theſe expreſſions of grief; and, in return, I am ſorry that your cauſe is ſo bad, that, even with the joint aſſiſtance of ſuch *ſagacious ſcholars*, you have not been able to manufacture ſome rational defence of your conduct. As to aſſiſtance, I hope to be always capable, without aſſiſtance, to defend myſelf againſt you, or any others who attempt to injure me. " You was likewiſe
" well acquainted with my ſucceſs at the
" time I was propoſed to be conſulted by
" Lady H———'s friends; and you have ſeen
" the lady M. S. in perfect health ſince the
" cure has been effected; and by confound-
" ing the tenſes of the verbs," &c.

In the foregoing paſſage is an attempt to make the Public believe that I had ſome intention of miſleading mankind; but I have already anſwered this objection. The quibble about the verb is admirable for learned ſcholars and critics. Whoever criticiſes on mere words, in a medical tract, muſt be in a critical

critical ſituation themſelves, and become objects of pity from their ignorance; for ſuch puerile critics are undeſerving either of ridicule or contempt.

" For what Dr. Rowley ſays in regard to " Lady H———'s caſe, and to the manner " in which her diſorder was treated by the " learned phyſicians before named, we muſt " refer to his pamphlet."

This laſt part, however, does honor to your cunning. The circumſtances of the greateſt importance to the Public are artfully concealed, namely, that of a cure being performed, which thoſe learned phyſicians, before conſulted with Dr. Hunter, conſidered incurable. But this ſilence well becomes the dignity of impartial critics, does it not? It, however, certainly anſwers your purpoſe.

And now, Sir, permit me to adviſe you to form mean medical cabals againſt me; go, and proſtrate yourſelf in the moſt ſubmiſſive and ſervile manner to thoſe *oracles of learning*, *thoſe mighty ſcholars*, the Reviewers: perſuade them, by any means, however diſhonourable, to treat me with perſonal ſcurrility and abuſe as they conſtantly

do; pour forth your rancorous indignation, by falſe inuendoes in private families, or through that literary channel, and it will afford me no ſmall entertainment. Such dark attacks may raiſe, but never will injure my profeſſional reputation.

And, Sir, for the preſent I ſhall take leave of you; but expect, if there ſhould be occaſion, to hear in a ſhort time from me again. The ſubject will be on the delivery of the placenta, the indiſcriminate uſe of low diet, and ſome other prejudices in the practice of midwifery, injurious to the community. If I ſhould be obliged to bring forth, to public view, the odious detail of facts in my poſſeſſion on theſe ſubjects, they will beſt determine whether you or I moſt deſerve the name of a *raſh* or *enterpriſing* practitioner.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt obedient, humble Servant,

W. ROWLEY.

JANUARY 3, 1775.

APPENDIX

TO THE

FOREGOING LETTERS.

IT is but juſtice to the character of Dr. Hunter to communicate a fact relative to cancerous diſorders. After I had publiſhed the ſelect obſervations, in which I gave many well-authenticated caſes of cures in ſome ſcirrhous and cancerous affections, and in other inſtances my ill ſucceſs, and communicated the mode of preparing the mineral alteratives, &c., which produced thoſe favourable effects, or otherwiſe failed, Dr. Hunter, as I am informed by medical practitioners of great credit, adopted the plan, and ſucceeded in ſome inſtances. This I mention, much to his honor, however we might differ in other reſpects. I can only add, that after a trial of the calomel, as prepared by *Scheele*, or when

when it is only ſublimed *three times and waſhed*, it never acts, as an alterative, ſo certainly as the *ſix or ten times ſublimed calomel*, called by me, when waſhed, *aquila alba*.

On the Furor Uterinus.

Great heat in the clitoris and vagina, with an inſatiable thirſt for coition, is called the *furor uterinus*.

It is of two ſpecies, violent and maniacal, or melancholic.

The imagination is ſo diſturbed, that imprudence and great indecency are common ſymptoms.

The cauſes ſeem an acrimonious depraved ſtate of the blood, directed particularly to the genital parts.

It happens ſometimes to very young ſubjects; but it is more common to perſons paſt menſtruation.

In inflammatory habits, bleeding repeatedly, antiphlogiſtic purgatives, an abſtemious diet, and ſolution of camphor with nitre, are proper.

In

In the non-inflammatory conſtitutions, the fluids ſhould be corrected by cinnabar and camphor in the form of an electuary, taken three or four times a day. This remedy has cured, to my own knowledge, ſome inſtances.

Injection of the *aqua-vegeto mineralis*, or ſolution of *ſal prunell.* in roſe water, are beneficial.

I have, however, known ſome inſtances, in which the vagina, and contiguous parts, have continued long in a heated ſtate, painful and inflammatory, ſo as to reſiſt all remedies whatever.

Almond emulſions, ſolutions of gum arabic, or linſeed tea, have been uſeful; but nothing has proved more beneficial than an extreme *dry diet*.

If there be great relaxation, the bark in a ſimple form may be preſcribed; but ſpirits, and every thing heating, ſhould be avoided.

FEMALE DISEASES

CONTINUED.

On the HYSTERIC PASSION.

FLATULENCY in the inteſtines and ſtomach, a ſenſation of a globe aſcending in the œſophagus, and conſtringing the fauces, ſo as to threaten ſuffocation, is nominated *Paſſio Hyſterica*, or the hyſteric paſſion. It is generally accompanied with a variety of other ſymptoms.

This diſorder being complicated, may be divided into three ſpecies; by which means it will be more clearly comprehended, and more methodically treated.

1. *Paſſio hyſterica flatulenta*, or the flatulent hyſteric paſſion.

2. *Paſſio hyſterica convulſiva*,* or the convulſive hyſteric paſſion.

3. *Paſſio*

* Synonyma & definitiones a variis ſcriptoribus.

The ancients ſuppoſed this diſorder to be a ſuffocation of the womb, from their inaccurate knowledge in anatomy, and called

3. *Paſſio hyſterica ſtertoroſa vel apoplectica*, or the ſtertoroſe apoplectic hyſteric paſſion.

There might be delivered many other ſpecies and ſubdiviſions of this complex diſeaſe, originating from various cauſes, agitating the human body and mind with great vehemence.

The *ſymptoms* common to all the ſpecies before the fit commences, are; general debility, an unaccountable lowneſs of ſpirits; liſtleſſneſs,

it ἡ πνιξ τῆ εν γαστρὶ.—*Hippocrat.* ſect. v. 602, 16 & 29. & aliis locis.

Sydenham. Afflictio hyſterica.

Sauvages. Hyſteria, 135. G. xx.

Artuum organorumque etiam internorum ſpaſmus clonicus tonicuſve, paroxyſmis fugacibus leviter variantibus, cum mortis formidine intenſiſſima.

Stahlianis, Malum hyſterico-hypochondriacum. Melancholia nervea Illuſt. *Lorry*. Iſteriſmo *Cocchi*, Bagni de Piſa.

Linnæus, 126. Præcordium preſſio ſub pectore cum flatulentia, ſuffocatione, anxietate, palpitatione, verticis preſſione.

Vogel, Hyſteria anxietas præcordialis cum ſpaſmis ventriculi ac inteſtinorum, variiſque congeſtionibus conjuncta, chronica.

Cullen: Hyſteria; ventris murmura; ſenſus globi in abdomine ſe volventis, ibique ſtrangulantis; ſopor, convulſiones; urinæ limpidæ copia profuſa; animus, varius & mutabilis. Theſe are more the ſymptoms, than the definition of the diſeaſe; nor are they well choſen as characteriſtics by Dr. Cullen.

Home, Malum hyſtericum.

liſtleſſneſs, and melancholic ideas; a total averſion to any thing requiring attention; grief, fear, ſorrows, ſuſpicions, anxiety, agitate the mind violently; dullneſs, or increaſed ſenſibility, in all the external and internal ſenſes; faintings, watchfulneſs, drowſineſs, or ſtupor.

The patient is reſtleſs at night, or has troubleſome dreams, with evident marks of indigeſtion; is frightened by the incubus, or night mare; receives no benefit from ſleep, relaxation increaſes every day, and the mind is agitated on the moſt trifling occaſions with ſurpriſe and timidity.

The eyes dazzle, or are dim, or have a confuſed viſion; giddineſs and ſwimming affect the head.

Palpitations of the heart, oppreſſions and uneaſineſs in the thorax increaſe the patient's diſmal apprehenſions.

The reſpiration is ſhort, painful, and difficult.

The pulſe becomes ſmall, irregular, ſometimes intermitting. Senſations appear in various parts ſuddenly, like cracking and exploſion, ſimilar to the electric ſpark; and,

perhaps, from a fluid paſſing through the nerves, ſimilar to the electric.

The appetite is depraved or loſt, with a painful, bad digeſtion, accompanied with flatulency in the ſtomach or bowels, colicky pains, conſtipations, or diarrhœa.

The urine is very pale and copious, as in all the other nervous affections.

The *general ſymptoms* during the paroxyſm or fit, are: palpitations of the heart; reſpiration is difficult, obſtructed, ſhort, painful, and irregular.

Contractions like ſtrangulation ariſe in the throat; with a ſenſation of a ball or globe aſcending, nearly choaking the ſufferer.

The tongue faulters, trembles, and incoherent things are ſpoken; the voice changes; ſome roar, ſcream, or ſhriek immoderately; others ſigh deeply, weep, or mourn plaintively.

The eyes are agitated, look exceedingly wild, are convulſed, fixed, or ſtaring.

The pulſe is weak, uneven, changeable, intermittent, or ſcarce perceptible.

Hiccups and flatulency diſtend and agitate the inteſtines, ſtomach, and œſophagus, without

out evacuation of wind. Spaſmodic contractions pervade all the alimentary canal.

An eruption of wind, either upwards or downwards, relax and mitigate the ſymptoms.

Vomitings or purgings always relieve; and they are commonly accompanied with a violent diſcharge of air, which had been detained during the paroxyſm.

There is likewiſe a copious diſcharge of urine, ſometimes containing a thick ſediment.

When the paroxyſm continues violent, then ſucceed faintings, dreadful and ſtrong convulſions, ſtertor, from the mouth iſſues froth; and the diſorder, except in not having ſuddenly ſeized the patient, aſſumes the form of epilepſy, and even apoplexy.

After the concluſion of the paroxyſm, there remains great debility, wearineſs of the whole body, headach, and pains in the convulſed muſcles, as though the body had been contuſed or beaten.

In the mind, perturbations on the ſlighteſt occaſions, petulance, impatience, and all, or part, of the ſymptoms which precede the fit.

Theſe

Theſe are the general ſymptoms of hyſteric complaints: but beſides theſe, they imitate every diſorder incident to the human body, and they are more or leſs violent in every individual.

The *cauſes* of this alarming diſorder are various: but firſt ſhould be conſidered the *remote* or prediſpoſing; which are,

1. A delicate and tender hereditary ſtructure of the body.

2. Exquiſite irritability and ſympathy of the nerves.

3. Inanition, or profuſe evacuations by vomiting, ſtools, menſes, hæmorrhages, or fluor albus, &c.

4. A retention of the catamenia, lochia, or other neceſſary excretions.

5. Great natural earneſtneſs on all occaſions, and extreme ſenſibility of the mind.

6. Colicky pains, nephritic, uterine, and other complaints.

7. A viſcid, acrid, acid, or flatulent diet.

8. High-ſcented perfumes.

9. A ſedentary inactive life.

10. An unhappy diſpoſition to anticipate miſery

miſery or misfortunes, diſtreſſes or dangers, where none in reality exiſt.

The *more immediate or proximate cauſes* are,

1. Diſtenſions of *air*, perhaps *fixed*, in the inteſtines.

2. The periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines is inverted.

3. The air, which ſhould naturally paſs downward, or be partly received with the abſorbed chyle, is retained, augmented, and repeatedly generated by the groſſer parts of the aliments; this accumulated air, by the inverted motion of the inteſtines, takes its direction upwards, paſſes through the ſtomach into the œſophagus; and thus the whole alimentary canal is blown up like a bladder.

4. The ſphincter of the rectum, in the inferior part of the inteſtines, is ſtrongly contracted; the entrance of the œſophagus, in the ſuperior and primary part of the inteſtinal tube, is ſhut, and both ſo over-diſtending their fibres by an increaſed air, as to deſtroy the elaſtic power of the muſcles deſtined to contract, or dilate theſe orifices.

5. The

5. The preſſure of the air againſt the pharynx and larynx, produce the apprehenſion of ſuffocation.

6. Deglutition is rendered very difficult, or is totally ſuppreſſed, from the diſtention of air overcoming the voluntary and involuntary muſcular motions neceſſary for ſwallowing.

7. Whatever is attempted to be drank during the paroxyſm is forced back from the ſame cauſes.

8. Inflations of the œſophagus, ſtomach, and inteſtines, compreſs the *diaphragm*, *lungs*, *aſpera arteria*, the *glottis* and *epiglottis*, and all the thoracical and abdominal *viſcera*, nerves, arteries, veins, lymphatics, and thoracic duct.

9. Compreſſions on arteries, or the ſtimuli of acrimonious blood acting on the heart, retard or quicken the blood's motion through the lungs, or the head, or ſuperior and inferior extremities: hence the changes obſervable in the pulſe.

10. Compreſſions on the returning veins, particularly the external and internal jugulars, or the occipital veins, may produce dangerous congeſtions of the blood, either in the venal

venal ſyſtem of the brain, or in the ſinuſes of the dura matter.

If the lymphatics ſhould be obſtructed in their courſe, the ventricles of the brain may be turgid with lymph; hence, likewiſe, dilatation of the pupils, &c.

11. The arteries receiving freſh blood from the heart, and the veins being incapable of returning it, may occaſion irritation or compreſſions in the nervous ſyſtem.

12. Irritation on the nerves will produce convulſions; but compreſſions on the *cerebrum* and *cerebellum*, ſtupor, comatoſe ſymptoms, and even apoplexy, an imperceptible pulſe, and *lypothymia*, or faintings.

13. Compreſſions of the *lymphatics*, *lacteals*, and *ductus thoracicus*, will prevent or retard nutrition; hence debility, depreſſions, or lowneſs of ſpirits, and a diminution of the moving muſcular powers.

14. Compreſſions of the viſcera pervert all the ſecretions, and hinder excretions, digeſtion in the ſtomach, bile in the liver, pancreatic juice in the pancreas, urine in the kidneys; and the veſſels in the abdomen, more

or

or leſs, ſhare ſimilar effects with thoſe of the ſuperior parts of the body.

15. The *hepatic* ſyſtem of blood veſſels is principally concerned; for the conflux of blood from the principal abdominal viſcera being conveyed to the *vena portæ*, the branches of which have *no valves*, ſtagnations and congeſtions ariſe, not only in that *viſcus*, but in the ſtomach, inteſtines, omentum, pancreas, ſpleen, meſentery, the uterus and its appendages, kidneys, and bladder; where ſcirrhous tumors, adheſions, cancers, ulcers, and mortifications generate. *Stahl*, in his Diſſertation de *Vena Portæ*, not inaptly called this vein *porta malorum*.

Vitiated blood received from the diſeaſed abdominal viſcera into the *vena portæ*, will produce an ill-ſecreted, black, vitiated *bile*; and this being conveyed to the *duodenum*, cannot unite the oleaginous with the pancreatic and ſerous juices, nor has it power to expel the groſſer aliments; hence coſtiveneſs, ill-prepared chyle, &c. &c.

16. The perverſion or retardation of the *ſecretions* and *excretions*, either diminiſh the quantity of chyle, pancreatic juice, bile, or

or urine; or change their qualities: hence the aliment paſſing from the ſtomach, receives not its proper changes in the duodenum. A depraved chyle is the conſequence.

17. Depraved *chyle* produces a morbid ſtate of the blood.

18. Vitiated *blood* generates impure and acrimonious fluids, and diſeaſed, weak ſolids; theſe are conſtantly irritated by the ſharp ſtimulating qualities of the fluids.

19. The urine is ſecreted copiouſly, and diſcharged without thoſe conſtituent particles which are evacuated in health, and dependant on ſalutiferous digeſtion, chylification, and ſanguification.

20. The fluids once in a ſtate of depravation, act with increaſed energy on the nervous ſenſible ſyſtem and muſcular fibres: the ſenſible nervous ſyſtem re-acts on the mind and organs of digeſtion: hence the cauſe becomes the effect, and the effect the cauſe of all the diſtreſſing evils, obſtructions, &c.

21. The *cauſes* of convulſions in various parts are eaſily conceived. The free admiſſion of the nervous influence to all muſcular parts, conſtitutes regular action, voluntary

and

and involuntary; acrid irritations produce the ſame effects as punctures, or ſtimuli of acrid preparations in muſcles, or in the heart; ſtrong compreſſions on the brain or nerves are ſimilar to ligatures ſurrounding nerves, and benumb the inferior parts. The former excite contractions, even after death, in muſcular parts; the latter, a diminution or deprivation of the moving powers during life: hence ſtupor, coma, ſyncope, inſenſibility, death, &c *.

Theſe convulſive effects, in part, are produced, although the communication with the brain is intercepted, or the principal deſcending nerves are compreſſed; hence partial convulſions.

The total and continued compreſſion of the nerves, however, produce palſy; but the blood circulates in the part, unleſs the artery be compreſſed.

A ligature on the arteries deſtroys animal heat, by the deſtitution of the arterial contractions, and the free circulation of the blood;

* Theſe cauſes of ſymptoms are not ſo methodical as they might be delivered; but whoever wiſhes for a more accurate account, may conſult my *Schola medicinæ univerſalis nova*.

blood; hence *animal heat* depends chiefly on the circulation of the blood.

The circulation of the blood depends on the nerves communicating with the heart from the brain; for though the heart and other muſcles contract after death, on being ſtimulated, it only demonſtrates, that thoſe parts ſtill contain ſome of that *nervous principle* which exiſted in life, and of which they are not deprived of even *poſt mortem*.

As this *nervous principle* evidently exiſts in muſcular fibles in death, it is eaſy to conceive its powers were more enegntic and active in life, and therefore more capable of contraction. It muſt appear rational, that convulſions may happen in various places, while others are at reſt, not being ſtimulated; and the mind at the ſame time loſe its perceptibility, by compreſſions on the brain, as in the epilepſy, &c.

22. All the ſenſations nominated nervous, are perceptions in the brain, or *ſenſorium commune*, conveyed by the irritated nerves of parts, and dependant on the communication and ſympathy of the nervous ſyſtem.

In

In hyſteric complaints, the *par vagum* and *intercoſtal nerves*, their branches and communications, are particularly irritated and affected. Whoever reflects on the importance of the parts diſeaſed; the ſtructure and diſtracted ſtate of the nervous filaments and ganglions for conveying the alarm to the ſenſes; with the various exertions to oppoſe the formidable enemy thus attacking the principal and vital parts, muſt be ſtruck with wonder and admiration at the uncommon wiſdom of nature in the conſtruction of this curious ſyſtem of the human body.

The nervous *conſenſus partium* eaſily explains the palpitations of the heart, the difficulty in reſpiration and hiccups, from the efforts produced by obſtructed circulation, and compreſſions in the lungs, or irritation on the diaphragm, &c. &c.

The moſt ſuſceptible minds being the greateſt victims to this diſorder, demonſtrate clearly the ſurpriſing effects of the mind on the body: for it often happens, that the compaſſionate ſpectators, from ſurpriſe, fear, and ſenſibility, are attacked with theſe complaints, as happened lately at Paris by *animal magnetiſm*;

magnetiſm; and it is common in families, to ſee a female attendant attacked in the ſame manner from a perturbed imagination. Thoſe who poſſeſs leaſt feeling, are leaſt affected by this diſeaſe, and can hardly conceive its poſſibility; are too apt to conclude on the feelings of others by their own ſenſations: but this is a partial and falſe concluſion.

This extreme nervous ſenſibility ſeems to ariſe from the blood, fixed, or other air, acting as a ſtrong ſtimulus on the nervous ſyſtem, and the re-action of the *nervous influence* on the circulating powers.

Perſons of ſtrong health never experience the diſorder, even though the mind be violently affected; it happens to the delicate in mind and body, whoſe blood is in an acrimonious ſtate, and the body irritable, from the cauſes already enumerated. That the mind is very ſenſibly affected by the diſeaſes of the body, no ſtronger proofs need be adduced, than the change of the diſpoſition under any chronic diſeaſe; where the moſt placid, tranquil minds, become peeviſh, ill-natured, and often iraſcible.

The

The ſtate of the blood, form of body, their acting powers on the nervous ſyſtem, and this again on that incomprehenſible part called the mind, cauſe all the diverſity of character amongſt human beings, and has a great influence in the moral conduct of human life. Envy, generoſity, illiberality, liberality, fortitude and timidity, placidity and iraſcibility, happy or unhappy ſenſations, very much depend on the ſtate of the blood; and the phyſician who moſt reflects, and beſt comprehends theſe diverſities in human nature, will always be moſt capable of relieving diſeaſes. To the diſcerning and obſerving, the phyſiognomy will convey much knowledge of human character, and it may direct a proper choice of remedies, more adapted to the various conſtitutions, than is apprehended by thoſe who idly fix one method or ſtandard of cure to all objects that offer. He who acts more by the exigency of the individual caſes in phyſic, than by the written directions of medical authors, will always beſt ſucceed in conquering diſeaſes. There is an alertneſs in preſcribing acquired by long experience,

experience, repeated reflection, and extenſive practice, that no books can communicate.

The hiſtory of medicine furniſhes us with many inſtances in hoſpitals and orphan-houſes, of the transferring convulſive epileptic diſorders from one affected patient to another by ſight, and the force of imagination *.

The

* Baglivius, in his Praxis Medica, cap. 14. §. 2. mentions a young man of Dalmatia, who, from looking at a perſon in an epileptic fit, was himſelf affected in the ſame manner. I have been witneſs to many ſimilar inſtances.

The late Dr. Whytt, of Edinburgh, ſays in his book on nervous diſorders:

" It frequently happened in the royal infirmary here, in Edin-
" burgh, that women have been ſeized with hyſteric fits from
" ſeeing others attacked with them."

One of the moſt remarkable inſtances of this kind happened in the poor houſe at Haerlem, in the time of the famous Dr. Boerhaave, and is recorded by his nephew in the following manner:

In domo, qua pauperes ex eleemoſynis publice aluntur in civitate Harlemenſi, perterrita puella incidit in morbum nervorum convulſivum, certis paroxyſmis reducem: adſtantium & adjuvantium in eam intenta, itidem corripitur eodem morbo: poſtridie altera, deinde tertia, quarta, imo fere omnes, tam pueri quam puellæ; ſtatus miſerrimus! corripitur hæc, corripitur illa, imo fere omnes eodem tempore, dum unum alter aſpicit, proſternuntur.

Medici ſolertes fruſtra adhibent quæ dictat ars, ſaluberrima antiepileptica remedia.

The *prognoſtics* of this complex diſorder are to be formed from the force or magnitude of

Confugitur tandem ad Boerhaavium, qui miſertus infelicis pauperum ſortis, petiit Harlemum, & dum rem examinat, invadente in unum paroxyſmo, vidit convelli plures ſpecie epilepſiæ.

Datis incaſſum optimis remediis a medicis ſapientibus & ad imaginationem ex uno in alterum traducto morbo, his rite perpenſis, hanc avertendo, credidit poſſe curam obtineri, & obtinuit.

Scilicet præmonitis ephoris, præſentibus omnibus, juſſit per cameram diſponi fornaces portatiles, prunis ardentibus inſtructas, atque iis imponi ferreos hamulos ad certam figuram adaptatos, tum ita mandavit:

Quia omnia fruſtra forent, ſe aliud neſcire remedium, quam ut qui primus, puer foret vel puella, infauſto morbi paroxyſmo arriperetur, locus quidam nudati brachii candente ferro ad os uſque inureretur; utque gravitate pollebat dicendi, perterriti omnes ad crudele remedium, dum inſtare ſentiunt paroxyſmum, omni mentis intentione & metu dolorificæ inuſtionis, eidem reſiſtunt fortioris oblatione ideæ.

Et certe quantum valeat hic ab objecto animæ intentæ revulſio, docet epilepſia diverſimode curata, ut quidem ipſe terror eandem ſuſtulerit, febris epidemica, quartana, ptyaliſmus, matrimonium, virga.——*Abr. Kaaw Boerhaavii, Impet. faciens Hippocrati dictum*, §. 406.

There is a wonderful ſympathy between the nervous ſyſtems of different perſons, whence various motions and morbid ſymptoms are often communicated from one to another, without any corporeal contact or infection.

The ſight of one perſon vomiting, has often excited the ſame action in others.

Yawning

of the different paroxyſms and conſtitution of the patients.

1. The

Yawning is propagated from one perſon through a whole company.

While I was at Paris in 1784, which city I have viſited many times, to examine medical improvements, *animal magnetiſm* was in great vogue. Though I had every reaſon from commou ſenſe to ſuſpect this *charletanerie* of knavery acting on folly, I ſtudied the affair with the greateſt accuracy, being acquainted with the famous *Dr. Franklin*, one of the commiſſaries appointed by the French King to examine the matter. Several converſations with this philoſopher ſatisfied me, that the whole was impoſition. In the *Rapport des Commiſſaires*, which was preſented me in a pamphlet by my eſteemed friend, Dr. Franklin, is the following hiſtory, as an illuſtration of magnetic deceptions.

" Le jour de la céremonie de la première communion, faite " en la paroiſſe de St. Roch, l'an 1780. Après l'office du " ſoir, on fit, ainſi qu'il eſt d'uſage, la proceſſion en dehors. " A peine les enfans furent ils rentrés à l'égliſe, & rendu a " leurs places, qu'une jeune fille ſe trouva mal, & eut des " convulſions. Cette affection ſe propagea avec une telle ra- " pidité, que dans l'eſpace d'une demie-heure, cinquante ou " ſoixante jeunes filles, de douze à dix neuf ans, tomberent " dans les mêmes convulſions; c'eſt à dire, ſerrement à la " gorge, gonflement à l'eſtomac, étouffement, le hocquet & " convulſions plus ou moins fortes.

" Ces accidens reparurent à quelques dans le courant de la " ſemaine; mais le Dimanche ſuivant, étant aſſemblées chez " les Dames de Sainte Anne, dont l'inſtitution eſt d'enſeigner " les jeunes filles, douze retomberent dans les mêmes con- " vulſions, & il en ſeroit tombé d'avantage, ſi on n'eut eu la

1. The *flatulent hyſteric paſſion* is rarely attended with any immediate or even future danger; it is more troubleſome to the patient, than alarming to the ſkilful and experienced phyſician.

2. The *convulſive hyſteric paſſion* is more difficult of cure than the preceding, but rarely ever dangerous. I have known it continue many years, and at laſt has entirely quitted the patient.

Thoſe, however, who can *curb* and beſt command the *emotions* of the mind, are moſt eaſily cured.

After the diſorder has ravaged in the habit, any ſlight affection of the mind can reproduce

" précaution de renvoyer ſur le champ chaque enfant chez " ſes parens. On fut obligé de multiplier les écoles. En ſepa- " rant ainſi les enfans, & ne les tenant pas aſſemblés qu'en " petit nombre, trois ſemaines ſuffirent pour diſſiper entièrement " cette affection convulſive epidemique.

" Voyez pour des exemples ſemblables le naturaliſme des " convulſions par M. Hecquet."

How ſhocking it is to reflect on the dreadful effects of the *animal magnetiſm* ariſing merely from apprehenſion! On numbers have been entailed *convulſive fits*, where none before exiſted, which may remain through life. Theſe fits were knaviſhly called *les criſes*, but aroſe from fear or ſurpriſe: perhaps a *female actreſs* or two were hired for the purpoſe of mimicking fits and diſtortions, &c.

duce the hyſteric fit, nor is it always in the power of the patient to avoid being affected; reaſon and reflection often coming too late for the purpoſe, and paſſion predominating with an ungovernable ſway.

The art of phyſic ſhould not be accuſed of defect, when the cauſes of a diſeaſe are chiefly reſident in the mind, ever ready to burſt forth with impetuous violence on the moſt trivial occaſions; yet a judicious medical management, very often changes the natural, accidental, or acquired diſpoſition of the patient. In proportion as the body advances from debility to firm ſtrength, ſo proportionably will the diſeaſe decreaſe, and the mind become more tranquil.

The *ſtertoroſe*, or *apoplectic hyſteric paſſion*, is more ſerious than the former two ſpecies, becauſe it indicates compreſſion in the cerebrum, or cerebellum; but this rarely proves fatal; after profoundly ſleeping and ſnoring, the patient gradually recovers: it is moſt alarming, if the reſpiration be ſhort and difficult; becauſe it ſhews, ge-

nerally, an impeded or obſtructed circulation of the blood through the lungs.

The *effects* of the diſorder manifeſt obſtructions in the viſcera of the abdomen and thorax; for congeſtions in the parts, or dilatations and ſtagnations in the veſſels, particularly thoſe that communicate with the *vena portæ*, have been obſerved by diſſections after death.

In the hyſteric affections, with difficulty of breathing, the lungs have been found putrid and diſeaſed.

In other caſes, the abominal viſcera, particularly the omentum, meſentery, inteſtines, ſpleen, pancreas, uterus, ovaria, and the ſtomach itſelf, has been forced out of its ſituation even towards the pubis*.

All

* *Hyſteria ſeu paſſio hyſterica.*

Anatomical Examinations after Death.

Sectiones cadaverum exhibent ovaria mole ampliora, aliove modo labefactata: continent laticem, materiam ſebaceam, caſeoſam, pilos, oſſa, &c. ex organis ſcirrhoſis erumpunt, tubercula, hydatides, tumores cyſtici, &c.

Contaminantur etiam uterus, tubæ fallopianæ, vaſa ſpermatica, cervix uteri.

Ventriculus depulſus, duodenum ampliatum, colon, rectum, infarcta, obſtructa; meſenterium, pancreas, aliaque viſcera ab-

All theſe appearances after death cannot be called cauſes of the diſeaſe, although they are

abdominalia, inflammata, ſcirrhoſa, hydatica, purulenta, putrida.

Herniæ epiploicæ, pulmones læſi, cor nonnunquam ampliſſimum, turgidum, cum polypoſis concretionibus.

Stagnationes, obſtructiones in abdomine, pectore & in cerebro.

In the courſe of above thirty years full practice, I have ſeized every opportunity to examine human bodies after death; for from this ſource of intelligence, the real cauſes and effects of diſeaſes are diſcoverable. This knowledge is the ſureſt, to purge the mind of viſionary hypotheſes, and points out the moſt rational cure for diſeaſes. In nervous hyſteric caſes, I have found, more or leſs, the viſcera diſeaſed; and in convulſive caſes, the veſſels of the brain extremely turgid, or effuſions of blood. This laſt ſhews the danger of giving *emetics* to nervous people.

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Hyſterica multum & gravioribus paroxyſmis vexata, cum doloribus acerbiſſimis & animi defectionibus.	Ventriculus ad hypogaſtrium delapſus.
Hyſteria, cum ventre tumido reſpiratione difficili, tuſſi ficca.	Tumores in ovariis & meſenterio.
—— invadit mulierem hæmoptyſi obnoxiam & menſtrua ſuffiaminat.	Pulmones & lien putridi.
—— ſuccedit delirium melancholicum.	Ovaria ſcirrhoſa.

Hyſterica,

are the effects of the hyſteric paſſion, and the cauſe of death; but the preventing ſuch effects

Symptomata.	*Extiſpicia.*
Hyſterica, ex improviſo enecatur hyſterica.	Ovaria ſcirrhoſa.
——— cum variis abdominis tumoribus hydropem accerſit.	Tumores in ovariis.
——— ſtipatur hypochondriorum intumeſcentia, febre veſpertina.	Pulmones tuberculoſi, inteſtina & omentum inflammata, uterus inculpatus.
——— epilepſia.	Pancreas putridum.
Inſultus hyſterici cum convulſionibus, tumore indolente uteri oborto fugantur, ſed dein hæmorrhoides pertinaciſſimæ eveniunt & his mors ſuccedit.	Uterus ingens intus materiam purulentam recondit.
——— ſtipantur tumore & dolore in hypogaſtrio poſt partum creſcente.	Ventriculus ad pubem delapſus.
——— cum dolore ſtomachi poſt partum recrudeſcente.	Hernia epiploica, ventriculus e ſede depulſus.

Highmorus, Sylvius, and Sydenham, accuſe the ſtomach, pancreas, meſentery, and vena portæ, as the genuine ſeat of the diſeaſe. Carolus Piſo, in Selectioribus Obſervationibus, conceives the ſeat to be in the cerebrum, or in the beginning of the nerves. Hoffman, in the uterus and its veſſels, from ſpaſmodic conſtrictions, after in the nerves about the ſacrum and loins; and from ſympathy of parts, communicating their effects to the nervous membranes of the medulla, of the ſpine, and

fects ſhould be the principal object in the treatment of the diſorder: it will, however, appear

and gradually from the inferior to all the ſuperior parts. Hoffman. De malo hyſterico.

Appearances in Bodies after Death.

Meſenterium plurimis glandulis ſcirrhoſis, duriſſimis & variæ magnitudinis & figuræ obſeſſum: vix ob duritiem diſcindi poterant. Uterus & ovaria cum tubis, recenti quaſi coagulato lacte turgebant. Blancardi LV. obſervatio anatom. pract. rational.

Morgagnus, de ſedibus & cauſis morborum, relates the appearances of a woman after death, whoſe menſes had been ſuppreſſed four months, accompanied with violent hyſterics and madneſs.

Venter jecur habuit eo colore quo elixum eſt: bilis tamen quæ ex ejus veſicula exſudavit, croceo colore vividiſſimo proxima infecerat inteſtina. Teſtes albi, duri, ſcirrhoſi, æquo majores, & ſuopte pondere quaſi pone uterum tracti. Uterini fundi interior facies, ſanguinolento quaſi muco non ſecus oblita videbatur, ac ſi menſtrua, jam inſtarent, aut nuperrime fluxiſſent: præterea in illa ipſa facie ex ſubſtantia uteri parvula, & perpauca prominebant tuburcula, verrucaram ſimilia.

Another inſtance of an hyſterical woman, remarkably timorous, of a corpulent body, addicted to wine, &c. who had been ſubject to tremblings and faintings from the moſt trifling cauſes. She vomited often, and could bear nothing ſolid on her ſtomach. She was at laſt ſeized with moſt grievous hyſteric affections, and died within an hour or two. Epiſt. XLV. 23.

Thorace recluſo, ſiniſter pulmo aliquo loco & leviter; dexter autem ferme undique, ſuperiore excepta particula, arctiſſime ad pleuram

appear, that phyſicians have more conſidered the palliation of ſymptoms, than the radical cure of this difficult and diſtreſſing diſeaſe.

The

pleuram adhærens inventus eſt per quandam membranam, quæ præter naturam tunicæ pulmoni inducta erat. Pulmones ambos cum ſecaremus, duros, & quaſi tendineos pluribus offendimus locis; ſpumoſo præterea humore, quaſi ſaliva quadam, paſſim ſcatentes.

Pericardium non paucam habuit aquam ex fuſco turbidam.

Cordis autem uterque thalamus nigrum ſanguinem, & fluidum.

Dexter inſuper modicam polypoſam concretionem, albam, ſed mollem, cui ſimilis altera in pulmonari fuit arteria, plurimo cum ſanguine. Hoc turgidiſſima erat auricula dextera; ſtrigoſa autem ſiniſtra. Verum huic auriculæ annexus ventriculus, naturali amplior, non unum obtulit animadverſione dignum. Namque, ut tendineas omittam fibrillas quæ inter mitrales valvulas, columnaſque ducuntur, viſas eſſe plures quam ſoleant; certe eæ columnæ erant æquo craſſiores, durioreſque, ut multo potius tendineæ, quam carneæ, viderentur, ſive colorem ſpectares, qui albus erat, ſive renixum attenderes quem ſecanti ſcalpello objiciebant. Præterea in ejuſdem ventriculi parietibus hic illic paſſim quædam occurrebant loca in quibus carnea ſubſtantia cordis aut alba, aut ex rubro alba ita erat, ut a primo glandularum quaſi quarundam ſpecie imponerent; ſed eodem illo peculiari renixu, diſſecantibus ſimilem ſe columnarum oſtendit. Vitium hoc carnis cordis, in tendineam naturam degenerantis, quo magis ab interiore ventriculi facie ad exteriorem purgabat, eo fiebat evidentius, pertinebatque exterius ad eum quoque locum cui ſeptum cordis reſpondet. Quin pinguedo ipſa huic viſceri impoſita non omnis ſecundum naturam ſe habuit. In poſteriore enim facie cordis per duos non parvos ſecundum longitudinem tractus inæqualis erat, ibidemque

The hyſteric and nervous diſorders will be much eaſier cured when recent, than when they

demque ex fuſco rubeſcebat. Arteria magna a corde ad curvaturam uſque propemodum totam, non valde quidem, ſed evidenter tamen dilatata, prope ſeptum tranſverſum æquo anguſtior viſa eſt. Inciſa, & ſanguine, quo non carebat, effuſo, oſtendit tota interiore facie a corde ad ramos ſaltem uſque emulgentes, particulas quaſdum albidiores, & lineas nonnihil extantes: præterea non eo ſolum quem modo dicebam, tractu, ſed & alibi quantum ex diſſectis ſuperioribus quibuſdam ejus ramis, cognovimus, intimam tunicam facile adeo a proxima ſejungendam, ut leviſſimam ſcalpelli frictionem magna ejus fruſta ſequerentur. In ventre autem hæc videremus. Omentum lienem verſus retractum. Perturbatus inteſtinorum ſitus. Hæc, colon præcipue, & rectum, aëre multum diſtenta. Meſenterium quidem; ventriculum, ſplenem, & jecur, cujus veſicula bile turgebat, ſana. Pancreas autem, quod ut nonnulla tenuia inteſtina decliviore præſertim parte rubebat, glanduloſis acinis juſto firmioribus, & inter ſe magis diſtinctis. Uterum denique, tubas, & non parvam vaginæ partem, cum ibi ſic ſatis, tum præſertim poſtridie, ut plus temporis, & diuturnum lumen haberemus e cadavere adempta, diligentius examinantes, hæc adnotavimus. Poſteriori fundi uterini faciei exterius circa medium adnatus erat per brevem pedunculum globulus, nihil magis albedine, forma, & magnitudine referens, quam parvum ceraſum immaturum: quem ſecantes, ex fibroſa quidem, ſed calloſa ſubſtantia, confuſiſque fibrarum ordinibus, factum deprehendimus: cujuſmodi alter globulus intra ipſam parietum uteri craſſitudinem erat conditus. Mox apertus uteri fundus multo apparuit ſubcruento muco fœdatus: quo deterſo, cum appreſſis ſubtus digitis, undique ex fundo quidem; non ex cervice, multoque minus ex vagina; prodeuntes mediocri expreſſione ſanguineas guttas oſtendiſſem; tam diſplicuit Santorino quod

they have continued many years: becauſe in the former the viſcera may not be diſeaſed; but in the latter, affections of the viſcera are always to be apprehended.

When the diſeaſe has originated in the body, it is eaſier removed than where the mind has been primarily affected; becauſe the bodily complaints often yield to the power of medicine; but the paſſions of the ſoul are too often above all ſkill and remedies. The emotions of the mind cannot be eaſily ſup-

quod pro certo ſcire non potuiſſemus, an mulier prope abeſſet a menſtruis, quam ſe antea * horum ſcaturiginem in vagina potius eſſe, quam in utero, credidiſſet. Cervicis ſuperiore parte excepta, reliquum longe alio rubore infectum erat, quaſi ab inflammatione videlicet, qui ab altero latere magis ad fuſcum inclinabat, nec tamen uſquam cervicis ſubſtantiam alte pervadebat. In tubis quoque mucoſus humor fuit; ſed albus. Utraque erat aëri, per majus orificium immiſſo, in uterum pervia: nec deerant prope id orificium hydatides. Teſtium uterque ab incluſis cellulis tumebat; ſed alter magis, qui præter magnam, minores quoque plures habuit cellulas, omnes fere plenas, una excepta in qua pus album fuit. In altero ſimul cum cellulis, & veſiculis ſerum continentibus, alias vidimus cellulas intus nigricantes. In utriuſque autem ſuperficie oſcula animadverteramus, tenue ſpecillum admittentia: præcipue vero in membranis per quas cum teſtibus tubæ nectuntur.

* Opuſc. med. 4. n.

ſuppreſſed, becauſe they are often, *ab origine*, in delicate and ſuſceptible conſtitutions. There may be obſerved a promptitude in nervous patients to torment themſelves on moſt occaſions, without any reflections on the injury and ſhocks they give their tender habits.

The indications for the *cure*, of the hyſteric paſſion and nervous affections may be formed from the *ſymptoms*, *cauſes*, and *effects* of thoſe diſeaſes.

The *ſymptoms* ſhould be palliated, the *cauſes* removed, and *effects*, ſuch as ſcirrhoſities, congeſtions, and obſtructions of the viſcera, prevented, or removed.

The treatment is to be conſidered under two diſtinct heads; the palliation of ſymptoms, and the removal of cauſes.

The palliation of ſymptoms is chiefly applicable during the paroxyſm or hyſteric fit; and this is beſt determined by its degree of violence.

While the radical cure is attempted, the urgent ſymptoms are likewiſe to be mitigated.

The

The *flatulent* or *windy* hyſteric fit is alleviated by fetid and volatile medicines the moment deglutition is poſſible. Tincture of *aſſafœtida* and *ſpiritus ſalis volatilis*, or *cornu cervi*, 20 or 30 drops of each in water or valerian tea; a few drops of oil of amber, or *oleum animale*.

In faintings, the fumes of vinegar, ſpiritus æthereus, or any volatile ſpirits, or ſalts, are to be applied to the noſe; burnt feathers, oil of amber, &c.

If theſe ſhould not ſucceed in recovering the patient, a clyſter is to be injected, compoſed of ſome bitter or aloetic purgative, and tincture of aſſafœtida; not only to empty the *rectum*, but to ſolicit the inverted periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines to its natural action, and promote the expulſion of the diſtending air, or wind downwards.

No. 46. ℞. Decoct. com. pro clyſter. ℥vj.
Ol. olivar. ℥iſs.
Syr. e ſpin. cerv. ℥vj. M. f. enema, ſtatim injiciendum, repetendumque pro re natâ.

No. 47. ℞. Decoct. com. pro clyſter. ℥vj.
Tinct. ſacr. ℥vj.
———aſſafœtid. ℥ij.
Ol. olivar. ℥iſs. f. enema.

No. 48.

No. 48. ℞. Aq. pur. tepid. ℥vj.
Sal. com. ℥vj.
Syr. e. ſpin. cerv.
Ol. olivar. aa. ℥j. f. enema.

In the *paſſio hyſterica convulſiva*, or convulſive hyſteric paſſion, the fit muſt be treated in the foregoing manner: but if the patient be plethoric, or the veſſels of the face full, turgid or red, bleeding during the fit will be neceſſary when the operation can be performed. Bleeding certainly weakens the force of the fit, and ſhortens its duration; probably, by diminiſhing the force of blood aſcending to the head during the paroxyſm, and rendering the circulation through the internal and external jugulars, vertebral and occipital veins, more free. The former are greatly compreſſed, by the dilatation of the œſophagus and ſtricture on the fauces in the fit; and there have been inſtances, though very rare, in which an effuſion of blood on the *cerebrum* or *cerebellum*, or of *ſerum* in the ventricles of the brain, have proved fatal*.

In

* In my diſſections after death I have met with two inſtances; though theſe are ſufficient to prove the poſſibility. In the firſt, the

In languid pale habits, with great debility, and eſpecially when the diſorder has been of long duration, bleeding *in paroxyſmo vel extra paroxyſmum* is improper, and ſometimes hurtful.

The patient during the convulſions ſhould be placed as erect as poſſible in a chair, to favor the deſcent of blood through the veins of the head and neck.

In the *paſſio hyſterica ſtertoroſa*, or hyſteric paſſion, with ſnoring and ſtupor ſimilar to apoplexy; bleeding, except in very relaxed patients, ſhould be always preſcribed; there is more danger to apprehend, and leſs to hope, in this than in the other ſpecies.

Sharp, irritating clyſters ſhould be uſed, No. 46, &c.

Volatile ſalts or ſpirits ſhould be applied to the noſtrils; bliſters to the neck, back, arms, or legs; and ſinapiſms to the feet.

If the patient be able to ſwallow, evacuations by ſtool ſhould be procured by active cathartics.

the patient died in ſtrong convulſions, after a violent paſſion of anger; in the ſecond, ſtrong convulſions and a ſtupor ſucceeded after a violent vomit.

Drinks

Drinks of all ſorts are to be very ſparingly admitted, leſt the *veſſels* continue *diſtended*.

After evacuating the feces, perſpiration ſhould be promoted by *camphor*, and the *tartarum antimonii*, or other antimonials, in ſuch ſmall doſes, as never to excite nauſea; or by the *ſpiritus mindereri* and camphor; or by *ſal volatilis ammoniacus*, *nitrum*, and *camphora*, in the more florid and plethoric habits.

Theſe are the general modes of treatment neceſſary for the three principal ſpecies of the hyſteric paſſion during the fit: but they muſt be varied according to the conſtitutions of patients, circumſtances of caſes, and cauſes from which they originate.

In the firſt attacks, the *lancet* may be uſed with more freedom than when the diſeaſe has continued. More *blood* may be taken from thoſe, where the paſſion of anger, or extreme quickneſs of temper, predominate, than in grief, melancholy, anxiety, and deſpondency.

The *indications* to obtain a *radical cure* in theſe complaints conſiſt,

1. In determining the ſuperabundant air downwards, and directing the inverted periſtaltic motion of the inteſtinal canal to its due and natural condition.

This is produced by gentle laxatives of the bitter and aloetic kind, joined with fetid remedies and carminatives.

By diminiſhing the quantity of air, and preventing effervеſcences, or fermentations in the ſtomach; therefore all vegetables of the green kind, ſallads, and ſweetened food, peaſe, beans, &c. ſhould be avoided.

Plain lean meats are moſt proper, and ſuch drinks that occaſion no fermentation: ſmall beer, ale, and all liquors, either in a ſtate of fermentation, or likely to produce fermentation, increaſe the diſorder.

The patient's feelings, however, ſhould direct the choice; and this is eaſily determined by obſerving what foods and drinks beſt agree, or occaſion leaſt flatulency.

Spirits and water check fermentation more than any other liquors; but they hinder nutrition. Though the generation of a large quantity of air may be very troubleſome and inju-

injurious, yet a moderate portion is not only uſeful but neceſſary.

Old hock and Seltzer water, or other wines of a proper age and water, commonly agree.

The *London porter*, is an excellent liquor for ſeveral hyſteric patients; but then no other drink ſhould be allowed at or after meals.

2. The over diſtenſion of the ſtomach and inteſtines is generally productive of great relaxation, loſs of appetite, indigeſtion, debility, &c. The ſtomach ſhould be braced by an abſtinence from all relaxing drinks, and ſpoon foods, which act as fomentations to the already relaxed parts; and the patient ſhould, when out of the fit, take mild chalybeate, vitriolic preparations, bitters, and bark. See remedies from No. 2. to No. 10. No. 26 and 27.

There will be found, however, in practice many female patients, particularly thoſe who are ſlender, or whoſe fibres and muſcles ſeem rigid and elaſtic, who cannot bear the ſlighteſt tonics or bracers; owing, perhaps, to rigid fibres of the ſtomach, or having

little mucus in the ſtomach to counteract the ſudden effects of bracers on the cardiac nerves: theſe commonly experience an obſtinate conſtipation.

In ſuch caſes aloetics, joined with cremor tartari, and very ſmall doſes of calomel united with the aloetica purgantia in moderate doſes, have beſt ſucceeded when taken *bis vel ter in ſeptimana*.

An over abundance of fixed air in the inteſtines has been greatly relieved by *lime water* alone; the air is acid, the lime water its powerful oppoſite.

3. The impervioufneſs of the lacteal veſſels on the ſurface of the inteſtines muſt be removed: being a principal cauſe of imperfect nutrition.

The cauſes are, an accumulation of inſpiſſated mucus, which is beſt diſlodged by aloetics and cremor tartar. or by a ſolution of borax in the *infuſum amarum*.

If the lacteal veſſels ſhould be impervious, from their orifices having loſt the power of abſorption, being filled with the coagulated chyle in their ſmalleſt tubular *villi*,

villi, mercurials are to be preſcribed; from half a grain to two grains of well-prepared calomel is to be taken twice or thrice in the week; the pilulæ mercuriales, the æthiops mineral, or cinnabar with camphor; the pilula rubra, and other alteratives. But even theſe preparations muſt be cautiouſly adminiſtered to nervous patients; becauſe metallic ſubſtances of all ſorts frequently produce tremors, and debility of the nervous powers.

If the mouths of the lacteals ſhould be impervious from relaxation, or an *atonia*, chalybeates, vitriolic acids, bark, and volatile ſalts are uſeful, in conjunction, occaſionally, with mercurials, chiefly uſed as alterants.

The *firſt* of the preceding cauſes, in which an adhering inſpiſſated mucus is apprehended, is common to the corpulent.

The *ſecond*, where the chyle coagulates in the tubes, is common to the pale, languid, and debilitated, in whom the arterial actions are diminiſhed, or to the groſſer habits, when the oleaginous particles of chyle ſuperabound.

The

The *third* is owing to cauſes ſimilar to the foregoing, and the cure ſhould be attempted by the ſame means.

The *fourth* cauſe of nutritious chyle not entering the lacteals, is its bad quality from various improper mixtures, and a contraction of the mouths of the *tubuli* on the inteſtinal ſurface.

This laſt caſe is more difficult to remove than the others, as it requires a better digeſtion in the ſtomach, a more pure chyle in the duodenum and ſmall inteſtines, and a removal of the ſtricture of the veſſels, without which the neceſſary abſorption cannot be readily performed.

This is commonly attendant on patients of a ſlender habit, tenſe, rigid fibres, exquiſite ſenſibility, and violent paſſions. The cure of ſuch can ſeldom be obtained, becauſe every *ſudden* and *momentary emotion* of the mind will counteract many *months labor* of the moſt profound medical ſkill. Antiſpaſmodics, deobſtruent alteratives, acids, or alcalines, as circumſtances and cauſes occur, are to be recommended; but above all other preſcriptions, *tranquillity* of mind.

It

It may be obſerved, that fatneſs or leanneſs, ſtrength or weakneſs, ſenſibility or torpidity, do not ſo much depend on what foods are received into the ſtomach, as their proper digeſtion, abſorption, and aſſimilation with the blood, joined with the natural ſtructure and form of the body.

Lean people are frequently great eaters, while the corpulent often eat and drink little; the ſlender in body more commonly agitate their minds on ſlight occaſions than the corpulent; becauſe they poſſeſs, in general, more ſenſibility. Digeſtion, chylification, and ſanguification, is eaſier completed in the former than the latter: but none of thoſe offices are well performed under mental perturbation; hence a vitiated nutrition. Let any one who has travelled compare the volatile, lively, good-natured French, with the torpid, ſlow movements of the Dutch, and the extremes of human character, as to levity and ſolemn ſolidity, may be eaſily obſerved.

Theſe extremes in human nature, owing to climate, diet, or education may be judiciouſly applied to the practice of medicine

to

to very great advantage: the more torpid habits require the moſt powerful mercurials and antimonials; while the irritable and delicate are ſometimes much hurt by the gentleſt remedies of the mineral claſs *.

4. As the *bile* is always more or leſs vitiated in nervous, hyſteric patients, it becomes abſolutely neceſſary to *examine the feces* or *excrements*.

If the evacuated feces be blackiſh, it demonſtrates that the bile has been ill ſecreted in the liver, retained too long in the gall bladder, or in the duodenum; by which it often loſes the neceſſary qualities for attenuating or mixing the chyle, and its ſtimulus on the ſurface of the alimentary canal, for

* The different nations in Europe all exhibit to the philoſophic and inquiring mind an extraordinary variety of genius and character. A lively imagination, quick invention, and a refined taſte in all the delicacies of life, I have obſerved, characteriſe the French; perſeverance, patience, and indefatigable ſlow induſtry, the Dutch; gravity, ſolemnity, and manlineſs, the Flemiſh and Germans; petulance and iraſcibility, ſome of the Italians and Neapolitans, blended with good humor, and a deſire to pleaſe. The different branches of arts and ſciences flouriſh, according to the climate, genius, freedom, laws, and religion of each people.

for forcing towards the greater inteſtines the groſſer parts of the aliments.

The coſtiveneſs from the inert bile is beſt removed by *aloetics*, *infuſum ſenæ* and *cremor tartari*.

The more powerful cauſe-removing remedies are waſhed calomel, to a quarter or half a grain, every or every other night, joined with three or five grains of ſome aloetic purgative, as the pilula Rufi, &c.

The *infuſum amarum* and the *ſal diureticus* ſhould be taken two or three times in the day, provided they are not rejected by the ſtomach.

No. 49. ℞. Merc. dulc. ſub. ppt. & lot. gr. vj.
Extract. cathart. ℈ij. f. pilulæ No xxiv. quarum ſumat unam omni nocte, vel alterna quaque nocte.

No. 50. ℞. Infus. amar. ℥vj.
Julep. e camph. ℥iſs.
Spt. lavend. c. ℥ſs.
Sal. diuret. ʒij. f. miſtura, de quo capiat coch. iij. bis vel ter in die.

The blackiſh bile very probably generates a great quantity of mephitic air; for no human fluid ſo ſoon putrifies as the bile: an injurious air is extricated from human ſub-

ſubſtances verging to a ſtate of putrefaction, in great quantities, as may be obſerved in the *tympanites* from viſceral putridity; and the bile particularly haſtens the corruption of all the human fluids in the *yellow* malignant fever of the Weſt Indies, ending quickly in death; to many inſtances of which I have been a ſpectator, without the power of affording relief, in the advanced ſtages of the diſorder *.

It muſt, then, plainly appear, 1. That healthy chyle cannot be expected when the bile is ill ſecreted, and *vitiated* blood is ſent to the *liver* from diſeaſed viſcera.

2. From the bile being long retained in the gall bladder.

3. From the conveyance of an impure bile through the hepatic duct, ſo that the mixed bile in the *ductus communis cholidochus* does not enter the *duodenum* in a fit ſtate for producing thoſe proper mixtures; not only dedicated to carry freſh nouriſhment to the body, but to protrude the fecal parts of the aliments through

* See my medical advice for the army and navy ſerving in hot climates.

through the inferior parts of the inteſtinal canal.

The correction of the vitiated bile includes not only a removal of obſtruction in the liver itſelf; but likewiſe of infarctions, congeſtions, obſtructions, and retarded circulation of the blood veſſels, and of all the abdominal viſcera, which ſend their blood into the *vena portæ*.

To effect ſuch important purpoſes, three conditions of great magnitude and difficulty preſent themſelves.

1. The removal of ſcirrhoſity, tumefaction, or obſtruction in the liver or ſpleen, and their dependant veſſels.

2. The acquiring a free, eaſy circulation in the lymphatic, arterial, and venal ſyſtems of the viſcera, and all their lymphatic glands, whether of the meſentery or other parts.

3. The changing the vitiated, acrimonious blood to a pure ſalutary ſtate.

The accompliſhing theſe grand objects may lay the foundation for a *radical* cure of hyſteric and nervous complaints: but doing leſs is only a *palliation* of the miſerable ſymptoms.

If

If the powers of nature be not too much debilitated to co-operate with judicious medicine, ſucceſs may crown medical endeavours: but if the remedies moſt effectual cannot be adminiſtered from *contra-indications*, the cure will be very doubtful, and ſometimes impoſſible: *ſed nil deſperandum, omnia tentanda*, with the utmoſt circumſpection.

The removal of infarctions and ſcirrhoſity in the viſcera can alone be expected by metallic preparations uſed as alteratives. In liver ſcirrhoſities of hot climates, mercurials uſed as unguents, or preſcribed internally, have cured the complaint. Nervous, irritable, and hyſteric patients, however, very ſeldom can bear mercury alone in the modes uſually preſcribed; the doſes are generally too large, and tremors, with other complaints, are the conſequence of their uſe.

Though mercurials given in the *large doſes*, formerly too much in vogue, may have produced miſchief; yet it does not follow, that very ſmall portions, as alteratives, repeated at proper diſtances, or combined with ſome ſtomachic laxative, will be injurious; on the contrary, excellent effects are produced.

If

If mercurials alone be found too ſtimulating and hurtful to the ſtomach, yet when united with ſulphureous antimonials, their active, irritating particles on the ſtomach and inteſtines are obtunded, they become mild and efficacious.

No. 51. ℞. Pulv. antimon. cum merc. dulc. ℈ſs.
Pil. gummos. ℈ij. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. x. quarum ſumat unam mane & nocte, ſuperbibendo coch. ij. miſturæ ſequentis.

No. 52. ℞ Julep. e camph. ℥iijſs.
Aq. pur. ℥iv.
Spt. lavend. c. ℥ſs. M. f. miſtura.

To palliate nervous ſymptoms while the above remedies are adminiſtered,

No. 53. ℞. Tinct. fœtid.
Spt. volat. aromat. aa. ℥j. capiat gtt. xxxx. vel lx. ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. vel infus. zingiberis ad libitum.

No. 54. ℞. Sulph. aurat. antimon. gr. x.
Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ℥iſs. tere ſimul, deinde adde
Conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxxx. de quibus capiat iij. mane & nocte.

No. 55. ℞. Pulv. rad. valerian. ℥ij.
Julep. e camph. ℥iij.
Aq. pur. ℥iv.
Tinct. ſtomach. ℥j. M. f. miſtura, de quo capiat coch. iij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 56.

No. 56. ℞. Æthiop. min.
Pulv. camphor. aa. ʒj.
Conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. quarum ſumat iv. mane & nocte.

No. 57. ℞. Julep. e camph. ʒv.
Spt. volat. fœtid. ʒijſs.
— lavend. ʒiſs.
Aq. pur. ʒijſs. f. miſtura, cujus ſumat coch. iij. ad libitum in languore.

No. 58. ℞. Kerm. min. gr. xij.
Merc. dulc. ſexies ſub. ppt, & lot. gr. vj. tere ſimul, deinde adde
Pulv. camph. gr. xvj.
Conſ. cynoſbat. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. de quibus ſumat ij. mane & nocte.

No. 59. ℞. Julep. e moſch.
—— e camph. aa. ʒiv.
Confect. cardiac. ʒij. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. ij. ter vel quater in die.

Theſe are the moſt decided remedies in congeſtions of the abdominal viſcera, in diſeaſed lymphatic veſſels and glands, and, generally, in all impurities of the blood: but as their preparations, and conjectures or demonſtrations of their actions and utility, are inveſtigated in the treatiſe which contains the management of the cancers of the breaſts and uterus, to that work is the reader referred.

In

In every ſtate of obſtruction from relaxation, and an irregular circulation of the blood through the abdominal and viſceral veſſels, chalybeates perform wonders, after the *ſordes* on the ſurface of the inteſtines are removed by proper laxatives, with or without the nervous fetid gums, or half a grain of merc. dulc.; their uſe ſhould be perſevered in twice or thrice a week; at the ſame time chalybeates ſhould be taken with bitters twice or thrice a day, or wine, and ſome nervine, appeaſing, carminative remedy to alleviate the ſymptoms.

No. 60. ℞. Pil. Ruf. ℈ijſs.
Merc. dulc. ppt. & lot. gr. iv. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. xx. quarum ſumat unam omni nocte, vel mane & nocte.

No. 61. ℞. Limatur. mart. ʒſs.
Pulv. flor. chamæmel. ʒij.
—— zingib. ʒij.
Conſ. roſar. ʒij. ſyr. ſimp. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. ante prandium cœnamque, quotidie ſuperbibendo coch. ij. infuſ. amar.

Fetid and volatile drops may be taken in lowneſs, or depreſſion of ſpirits, or agitations of the mind.

Theſe

Theſe plans of cure muſt be perſiſted in for many months, or a radical cure of nervous diſeaſes will never be attained.

The preventing or removing obſtructions in the lymphatic veſſels or glands require a ſimilar treatment. The lymphatic, or abſorbent veſſels, can convey *poiſons* into the conſtitution; but they can likewiſe convey *remedies*. Venereal *miaſma*; the bite of a viper, or mad dog; animal putridity, and other deſtructive matter of the moſt ſubtile nature, are conveyed to the blood by means of theſe veſſels*. Mercurials externally applied purſue the ſame courſe through the

* Theſe facts are at preſent but little known except amongſt the lateſt and moſt learned anatomiſts. Boerhaave, nor any of his diſciples, well underſtood theſe ſubjects; their *pathology* and methods of *cure*, are in many inſtances ſtrikingly defective: but ſo tenacious are many at this preſent time, of the leſſons they received early in their youth, that they are frequently offended at later diſcoveries, and offer inſolent and unmerited oppoſition, from no other cauſe, than becauſe they are *new*. For my own part, I have endeavoured to apply all the new doctrines to diſcover the defects of our art; and to make permanent improvements; and am happy in making grateful acknowledgments to Doctors Monro, Hunter, Meckell; to Meſſrs. Hewſon, Hunter, Sheldon, Cruikſhanks, ſurgeons, for their very uſeful diſcoveries. I have, I hope, purſued the ſame ſubjects not without ſome ſucceſs, in applying moſt modern diſcoveries to practice.

the lymphatic veſſels and glands to the thoracic duct, and mix with the blood; thus many excellent remedies may be conveyed without diſturbing the ſtomach.

The lymphatics of the abdominal viſcera having loſt their powers of abſorption, an effuſion of the coagulated lymph will be the conſequence; coagulations of lymph, and tumefactions in the lymphatic glands, will likewiſe ariſe from obſtructions of lymphatic veſſels or glands nearer the thoracic duct. Hence congeſtions in the inferior parts will be formed, ſcirrhoſities and tumors ſimilar to the ſcrophula externally; and by repeated diſſections of diſeaſed perſons, who have been long afflicted with hyſteric, nervous, and other chronic diſeaſes, I have always found tumors of this nature in the *iliac*, *meſenteric*, or other lymphatic glands. Theſe were, it muſt be acknowledged, often more the effects of the diſeaſe than the cauſe; but yet, to prevent theſe congeſtions and obſtructions muſt certainly be a more rational mode of cure than the common treatment. There is reaſon to ſuſpect they do or will exiſt; and to prevent or remove ſuch ac-

cumulations, is a more determined and ſenſible practice, than merely to palliate ſymptoms. The alleviation of ſymptoms, particularly by *opiates*, renders the diſeaſe ſometimes more difficult and incurable.

To prevent or remove theſe congeſtions in the lymphatic ſyſtem, *mineral alteratives* ſhould be judiciouſly preſcribed, and long continued; urgent ſymptoms ſhould likewiſe be cautiouſly mitigated*.

The

* The whole practice to be found in authors for hyſteric or nervous complaints, when we except air, exerciſe, and a few tonics and mineral waters, are chiefly *palliative*; and it is for this reaſon *cures* are frequently not produced. *Cordials*, as *confectio cardiaca*, *ſpirits of lavender*, *myrrh*, *ſagapenum*, *opoponax*, &c.; *fœtid gums*, *aſafœtida*, *caſtor*, *ſaffron*, *volatile ſpirits* and *ſalts*, *valerian*, *camphor*, *ſoot*, *animal fœtid oils*, *plaſters of galbanum*, or *aſafœtida*, &c. *chamomile flowers*, *elder flowers*, *carminative ſeeds*, *angelica*, *ginger*, *wormwood*, *rue*, *centaury*, *orange peel*, *balm*, *mint*, *ſage*, *pennyroyal*, *roſemary*, *lavender*, *birthwort*, &c. &c. Some of theſe remedies are excellent palliatives, particularly camphor, valerian, aſafœtida, volatiles, &c. but theſe laſt often are too hot. The major part are by no means adequate to remove the diſorder, and muſt have been founded in ſuperſtition, or a very ſuperficial knowledge of the powers of remedies, or magnitude and reſiſtance of diſeaſes. Writers, in general, have only copied one another's *credulity*, and often *abſurdities*.

Emetics

The *pilula rubra*, the æthiops mineralis, cinnabar with valerian, muſk or camphor, ſolu-

Emetics are preſcribed. Nothing certainly can be more rough, irrational, and hazardous. The periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines is inverted, and its inverſion is ſeconded by the phyſician contrary to common ſenſe: but beſides, very few nervous perſons *bear vomiting*; their ſickneſs or nauſea is ſymptomatic, and the forcing a quantity of blood to the head by the violence of vomiting, to my own knowledge, has proved *fatal*; and yet vomits are daily ordered without any reflection on conſequences.

Bleeding may in ſome inſtances be uſeful when the diſorder is recent, or where plethora abounds.

Nitre is ordered by many writers. Scarcely any very hyſterical or nervous perſon can bear nitre on the ſtomach. It is a favourite medicine of mine in many caſes; but ſhould ſcarcely ever be preſcribed to the nervous; and, if it ſhould be adviſeable in plethora, great heat, ſtrong pulſe, &c. camphor or volatiles ſhould be united with it; in general, however, it diſagrees.

Opiates, as laudanum, &c. are extremely improper. Nervous patients are often convulſed, or a *delirium* and *madneſs* are produced by opium, when there is already an affection on the mind, or an irritation in the brain. There are other objections.

Opium is very *uſeful* on many occaſions; but it produces coſtiveneſs, detains the flatus or wind frequently, retards the circulation of the blood, and may be the cauſe of various congeſtions, from its known property of diminiſhing, not only the moving powers, but the ſecretions, and, in general, the excretions. In the Weſt Indies, I never ſaw it ſucceed in

ſolutions of argentum vivum in mucilage of gum arabic, with very ſmall portions of *antimonium tartariſatum*, always preſcribed as alteratives, are efficacious remedies.

By ſuch modes of practice, morbid, lymphatic glands, diſeaſes in the meſentery, or other viſcera are ſometimes cured: caution is neceſſary, to adapt ſmall doſes of mineral alteratives to the indivídual conſtitution, and to perſevere many months in their uſe. *Impatience* never conquered a chronic nor difficult diſeaſe; and *flying* from one remedy to another with an impetuous reſtleſſneſs, neither demonſtrates penetration, judgment, nor ſkill in the phyſician. Plans of cure ſhould be coolly and maturely contemplated, and ſteadily purſued, unleſs they diſagree; or

the *locked jaw*. Opium, therefore, though it might palliate in ſome inſtances, and is excellent on many occaſions, yet it is hazardous. Camphor, valerian, ſnake root, or aſafœtida, are more ſafe and efficacious. The opinion that opium ſhould be given in large doſes, if it irritate in ſmall, is a doctrine replete with danger: I have known it prove fatal.

Steel preparations are in many caſes uſeful, after inteſtinal obſtruction is removed.

Dr. Mead's remedy of valerian and cinnabar is one of the moſt rational for removing cauſes.

or all endeavors to eradicate nervous and hyſteric diſeaſes muſt prove abortive.

3. The changing the vitiated blood to a more balſamic and leſs acrimonious ſtate, conſiſts in the removal of the foregoing obſtructions. Afterward, tonics, as bark, ſteel preparations, chalybeate waters, and whatever can ſtrengthen the relaxed body, will be eſpecially uſeful.

Air, *exerciſe*, and *diverting* the mind with a variety of amuſements, ſhould be ſtrenuouſly recommended; to prevent thoſe dreadful apprehenſions which ariſe from bodily indiſpoſition, ſeizing the ſoul with ſomething verging on *deſpondency*.

The foregoing methods are not neceſſary in ſlight, recent, nor accidental caſes; but in thoſe inveterate indiſpoſitions that have long tormented and reſiſted the common attempts to cure. Heavy bodies cannot be moved without a force ſuperior to their weight or reſiſtance; nor diſeaſes be conquered, but by remedies more effectual than their morbid oppoſing powers.

4. In recent, nervous, and hyſteric affections, cures are frequently obtained by palliating

liating the ſymptoms, and bracing the relaxed habit.

Theſe modes of cure are applicable to caſes in which general relaxation preſents itſelf; for by great debility, the ſecretory and excretory organs have all their powers diminiſhed; the leaſt bodily or mental efforts produce languor and faintneſs, and the patients feel ſenſations, as though they were hourly expiring.

In ſuch circumſtances of morbid diſtreſs the following preſcriptions have well ſucceeded.

No. 62. ℞. Pil. gummos. ʒj.
—— Ruf. ʒſs. M. accurate, f. pilulæ No. xxx. quarum ſumat unam mane & nocte.

No. 63. ℞. Pulv. flor. chamæmel. ʒij.
Colcoth. vitriol. benè pulv. ʒvj.
Pulv. zingib. ʒij.
Conſ. roſar. ʒij. ſyr. croc. q. s. f. elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. ante prandium & cœnam quotidie ſuperbibendo coch. ij. infus flor. chamæmel.

Or the electuary, No. 61, is excellent for removing debility.

No. 64. ℞. Gum. aſſafœtid. ℈ij. ſolv. in julep. e camph. ʒv. deinde adde
Aq. pur. ʒviſs.

Tinct.

Tinct. ſtomach. ℥iſs.
Sal. c. c. gr. xij. f. miſtura de qua capiat coch. ij. in languoribus ter vel quater in die.

No. 65. ℞. Tinct. flor. mart. gtt. xxx. vel ℥j.
Aq. pur.
—— cinnam. ten. aa. ℥j. f. hauſtus, mane meridie & veſpere ſumendus.

No. 66. ℞. Extract. flor. chamæmel. ℥j.
Sal. mart. gr. x. M. f. pilulæ, No. xx. quarum ſumat iij. ante prandium & cœnam.

No. 67. ℞. Spirit. lavend. c.
——— volat. fœtid. aa. ℥j. M. cujus capiat gtt. LX. ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. & zingiberis, languore moleſto, vel ſpiritûs defectu.

No. 68. ℞. Pulv. cort. Peruv. gr. xv.
—— rad. valerian. ℥ſs.
Aq. pur ℥xiv.
Tinct. amar. ℥ij. ft hauſtus, bis vel ter in die ſumendus.

No. 69. ℞. Liquor. anodyn. Hoffm.
Sp. lavend. comp. aa. ℥j. M. cujus capiat ℥j. ad libitum in coch. ij. aquæ, vel aquæ menth. pip. ſimp.

No. 70. ℞. Pulv. rad. valerian. ℥ij.
Decoct. cort. Peruv. ℥vij.
Tinct. ſerpent. virg. ℥j. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. ij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 71. ℞. Pil. gummos. ℥iſs.
—— ex colocynth. ſimp. ℥ſs. f. f. pilulæ, No. xxxx. ſumat unam mane & nocte.

No. 72. ℞. Decoct. cort. Peruv. ℥vij.
Extract. ejuſdem. ℥j.
Tinct. ſtomach. ℥vij.

Elix.

Elix. vitriol. acid. ʒſs. M. f. miſtura, de qua capiat coch. iij. ter in die.

No. 73. ℞. Tinct. fuligin.

——— aromat. aa. ʒj. M. cujus capiat gtt. LXXX. ter vel quater in die ex coch. ij. infus. rad. valerian. in languoribus ſpiritûſve defectu.

The preceding forms of preſcriptions indicate their curative intentions; which are, the removal of congeſtions or obſtructions; the mitigation of all the grievous ſymptoms, and invigorating the relaxed and debilitated habit. Theſe methods, however judicious, will prove fruitleſs in many inſtances, unleſs the patients will be determined to ſuppreſs all violent emotions of the mind.

Hyſteric affections ariſing from various cauſes, as the chloroſis, fluor albus, a retention or immoderate flow of the menſes, or other diſeaſes, or paſſions of the mind, ſhould be treated according to the circumſtances of caſes and habits of patients. Primary cauſes being removed, effects of courſe will ceaſe.

On the Diet of nervous Perſons, &c.

Debility, or delicacy of body, and ſuſceptibility of mind, are the principal cauſes of theſe

theſe diſorders. The diet moſt likely to ſtrengthen the weakened habit is of that nutritious kind, which is digeſted and aſſimilated with leaſt labor to the ſtomach, or inteſtines.

Flatulency is produced by all *vegetables*, as *greens*, *ſallads*, &c. and *leguminous food*, ſuch as *peas*, *beans*, &c. and many *fruits*; theſe, in general, ſhould be ſparingly allowed, or altogether avoided.

Animal food affords the beſt nouriſhment; therefore meats of all ſorts, eaſy of digeſtion, are preferable to any other aliments. Low diet will never ſtrengthen the debilitated; but the ſtomachs and cuſtoms of individuals ought always to be principally conſulted.

Gelatinous ſubſtances, as jellies of hartſhorn, iſinglaſs, calves feet, &c. muſt not be too freely allowed, as they with difficulty paſs through the lacteal ſyſtem of nervous patients. Strong gravy, broths of lean meat, as veal, or beef tea, in ſmall quantities, with toaſted wheaten bread, is eaſily digeſted, and received into the conſtitution, affords moſt nouriſhment to the body, and produces

produces a compacter coherence in the relaxed ſyſtem.

Punch, lemonade, and moſt vegetable acids, are improper.

Tea ſhould be very ſparingly uſed, or rather avoided, as it relaxes the coats of the weakened ſtomach. Coffee, cocoa, or chocolate, are better, provided they agree.

Porter with ginger, or a glaſs of red port, are beneficial; but all flatulent ales, ſmall beer, or whatever is found to generate wind, ſhould be ſtrictly abſtained from.

A clear, dry air is preferable to moiſt. Where electricity moſt abounds, the animal ſpirits are moſt lively; where it is moſt diminiſhed by moiſture, a phlegmatic dulneſs, or languid ſpirits, may be obſerved. The country is better than town air.

Exerciſe and amuſements are efficacious remedies; for whatever can gently agitate the body, and divert the mind from the preſent diſtreſs, or future apprehenſions, will alleviate the diſmal effects of the diſorder.

Sleep ſhould be indulged, but ſcarcely ever ſolicited by opiates.

When

When reſtleſſneſs ariſes from indigeſtion, very light ſuppers are neceſſary, and a ſmall portion of ſpirit and water may be uſed to check fermentation.

All ſecretions and excretions ſhould be gently promoted, as the circulation of the blood will then be more regular.

The retenſion of feces, urine, or perſpiratory fluids, are always productive of depraved humors.

The mind ſhould be preſerved as much as poſſible, in a ſtate of tranquillity; very trifling cauſes irritate the nervous, and excite emotions not eaſily ſubdued.

The nervous and hyſteric are accuſed of peeviſhneſs and iraſcibility; but this apparent violence is more cauſed by the miſerable ſtate and ſenſations in the body, than any predetermined malignity of the mind, and therefore merit compaſſion and indulgence. The melancholic ſhould be rouſed by amuſements and proper exerciſe: the irritable and over-active ſhould be calmed by reſt and cool reflection.

Practical

Practical Cautions, Admonitions, and Observations.

Nervous diſeaſes frequently aſſume the appearances of almoſt every diſorder incident to the human body; in the head and ſtomach, breaſt and ſides, are pains; in the bowels, cholicky complaints, and flatulent gripes; in the kidneys and bladder, acute affections like the gravel and ſtone; but caution is neceſſary in their treatment.

If nervous affections be miſtaken for acute inflammatory diſeaſes, and profuſe evacuations, by bleeding, purging, and cooling are uſed, dangerous conſequences will ſucceed to ſuch an imprudent practice.

Vomits are often preſcribed to nervous patients, which is too violent a method; the nauſea, or ſickneſs, is commonly *ſymptomatic*, and no judicious phyſician would apply ſo coarſe a remedy as vomiting to a delicate feeble conſtitution, when the ſtomach is ſecondarily in fault; but he would rather attempt to remove the primary cauſes by lenient means.

3. In

3. In thoſe complaints denominated *bilious*, which term ſeems of a vague and unſettled ſignification, vomits are univerſally preſcribed at random; but nothing certainly can be more improper or dangerous.

An accumulation of bile in the ſtomach, cauſing great ſickneſs, headach, &c. may be termed a *bilious diſorder*; it is more known in hot than in European climates, and vomits are the uſual remedy.

The adminiſtration of vomits in ſuch caſes originated in the times of *ignorance*; but cuſtom and faſhion have ſtill erroneouſly continued their uſe to the preſent period, notwithſtanding the modern knowledge in anatomy and phyſiology is directly againſt ſuch a practice. Innumerable other inſtances might be adduced, where the principles of practical medicine have by no means held pace with the many uſeful and important diſcoveries of the moderns in anatomy, chemiſtry, and phyſiology.

Bile is never in the ſtomach naturally, nor was it ever deſtined, according to the laws of the animal œconomy, to be an inhabitant of the ſtomach.

It is poured by the biliary ducts into the *duodenum*, or firſt of the ſmall inteſtines, where it unites with the oleaginous and aqueous particles of the digeſted food deſcending from the ſtomach.

Its purging, cathartic, or ſtimulating qualities, aſſiſt the deſcent and excluſion of the groſſer parts of the food.

The *bile*, therefore, has *no office* or function to perform in the ſtomach; nor is ever there but in a ſtate of diſeaſe, occaſioning great ſickneſs.

By an over-abundance of bile irritating the *duodenun*, or from other cauſes, eſpecially nauſea, the bile is forced into the ſtomach by the inverſion of the periſtaltic motion of the *duodenum* and *pylorus*; in ſhort, by thoſe parts forcing the bile upwards, inſtead of purſuing its natural courſe downwards.

The bile then, being forced by this inverted action of the *duodenum* and *pylorus* into the ſtomach, cauſes nauſea, ſickneſs or vomiting. If the flow of the bile upwards be prevented, all thoſe ſymptoms, and the ſuppoſed neceſſity of throwing the *bile* off the ſtomach, would be unneceſſary.

Vomits

Vomits bring the *bile upwards* into the ſtomach, and cauſe an increaſe of the bilious diſeaſe; conveying the *bile downwards*, then, by gentle laxatives, is the moſt rational and ſafe prevention and cure for bilious accumulations in the inteſtines. *Bile* and other matter is brought to the ſtomach by *vomits*; but ignorance ſuppoſes, what is thrown off was the *cauſe* of the irritation, whereas it is the mere *effect* of vomiting.

Vomits certainly give temporary eaſe, but lay the foundation for future indiſpoſition: inſtances there may be in which they are neceſſary, but they certainly ſhould as much as poſſible be avoided, for they always promote the aſcenſion of the bile, and cauſe a *future* neceſſity of vomiting.

Gentle aloetics, with ſoap, or other laxatives, not only prevent the retention of bile in the inteſtine, but generally exclude it through the inferior inteſtinal canal.

Vomiting is violent, the laxative plan gentle; neither reaſon nor experience can juſtify *rough* practices, when *mild* methods can anſwer every medical intention.

It

It is impoſſible to know what injuries vomits may produce, by forcing a quantity of blood to the *brain*; this has proved deſtructive in ſome inſtances, and the ſtomach has been forced out of its ſeat by this violent vomiting action *.

Vomits, therefore, to all delicate, nervous, or bilious patients, ſhould be cautiouſly preſcribed, or generally omitted.

4. In the *convulſive* hyſteric paſſion, *bleeding*, in general, is neceſſary, particularly in young

* A young man, named Bowles, in St. James's-ſtreet, was ſeized with a violent vomiting: Mr. Gent, ſurgeon, of St. James's-ſtreet, was called, and afterwards I was conſulted, and preſcribed anti-emetics and gentle ſtomachic laxatives, and motions were procured. The patient raiſed himſelf from his bed, ſeemingly in good ſpirits, and had not been in an erect poſture one minute before he died. The young man had drank freely of ſpirits.

I opened the body in the preſence of Mr. *Gent*, and Mr. *Tronſon*, of *Harley-ſtreet*, and found the ſtomach had forced itſelf into the cheſt, puſhing the lobe of the lungs on the ſide it occupied to the ſuperior part of the cavity of the thorax. In the ſtomach was contained about a pint and a half of liquid of a darkiſh color, but not fetid; the remainder of the cavity of the ſtomach was inflated with wind. It appeared clear to me, why the young man died ſuddenly in an erect poſition; for the ſtomach not deſcending into the abdomen, but laying on the *diaphragm*, reſpiration was totally impeded by the heavy preſſure of the ſtomach; from hence ſyncope and death.—Here is an inſtance in which vomiting, without any emetic, forced the ſtomach out of its place, and proved fatal ſuddenly.

young plethoric patients. In the pallid, languid, and debilitated, it ſhould be omitted.

5. Palpitations of the heart, a difficulty of breathing, and acute pains in the cheſt, may ſometimes require bleeding: but the milder remedies ought firſt to be adminiſtered; as volatile liniments, with *oleum aniſi*, or *oleum terebinthinæ ætheriale*. Similar applications have availed in flatulency, when rubbed on the abdomen.

Internally, likewiſe, the *oleum aniſi* to forty drops, with *tinctura rhei*, or ſuch ſtomachic laxatives, have ſucceſsfully expelled wind, when other remedies were not ſufficiently warm nor ſtimulating for the purpoſe.

6. Among the palliatives, camphor, valerian, oleum animale, and caſtor, are leſs heating than the fetid gums. In fever and heat, or in a plethora, where red particles of blood much abound, the former are preferable to the latter.

In the hyſteric fit approaching neareſt to the apoplexy, *bleeding* is abſolutely neceſſary in all patients, except the old, pallid, dropſical, gouty, and extremely debilitated.

The *pulſe*, as too *low*, *weak*, and almoſt *imperceptible*, is a fallacious guide; the *lower*

the pulſe, the *greater* neceſſity for bleeding. No experienced man would depend on the pulſe, but be governed entirely by the other evident ſymptoms. The low and nearly imperceptible pulſe ſhews the height of *obſtruction* in the heart, veſſels of the *lungs*, or a *compreſſion* of the *cerebellum*.

Bleeding in the *occipital* or *jugular veins*, or in the *temporal artery*, are moſt eligible, becauſe they immediately empty the blood from the part affected, namely, the brain, and the turgid face, and ſecures the patient, above all other means, from the danger and *ſudden* fatality of the apoplexy. Not a moment ſhould be loſt; for loſs of time in bleeding is the certain loſs of life.

Since the diſcovery of the circulation of the blood, a dangerous prejudice has prevailed againſt *local* or *elective* bleedings.

The chief argument againſt local bleeding is, that in the courſe of an *hour* or *two*, let the blood be taken from whatever part of the body, the effect will be the ſame, as though it were taken from the vein ſituated neareſt the diſeaſe: but many diſeaſes, according to my reaſoning, are too rapid to wait an hour or two;

two; as *concuſſions*, or *compreſſions* on the brain, *fractures* of the ſkull, convulſions, apoplexy, epilepſy, &c. &c.

The reaſoning againſt *local* bleedings appears very plauſible; and it may be true, that in the courſe of two hours circulation, the whole habit may ſenſibly feel the loſs of one or two pounds of blood taken from the arm, or any other part.

Apoplectic attacks, however, are too *rude* and *ſudden*, to wait an *hour* or *two* for this *gradual* depletion. The blood is forced from the heart, with reſiſtleſs violence, to the head, through the carotids, by which all the veſſels in the membranes of both *dura* and *pia mater*, and the whole ſubſtance of the brain, are turgid and diſtended with blood.

If the veins do not carry, with equal celerity, the blood back, thus forced into the arteries of the brain, ſome of the ſmall capillary arteries burſt, the blood pours out, and death may immediately enſue.

In a diſorder ſo fatally rapid, and where death is produced by a ſudden and over-diſtenſion of blood, would any reaſonable perſon heſitate at electing the moſt effectual and

immediate remedy, in preference to that which is *dubious* and *ſlow* in its operation?

The rupture of the over-charged blood veſſels in the membranes of the brain is to be apprehended, and death is the conſequence: the emptying theſe veſſels with more rapidity by the temporal artery, the jugular, or occipital veins, is the moſt rational cure. The practice is decided; and it has often, to my knowledge, preſerved life in numerous caſes of the moſt dangerous apoplexy: at all hazard, in deſperate caſes, blood by a large orifice muſt be evacuated, if not from thoſe afore-mentioned veſſels, by the veins of the arm, &c.

Let it be acknowledged, that bleeding in the arm might in an hour or two, or ſooner, empty theſe diſtended veſſels of the brain; but the patient is often *dead* in a *few minutes;* the diſeaſe does not wait the ſlow progreſs, nor tardy effects of a remote bleeding. Remedies ſhould ever hold pace with the rapidity of the diſeaſe *.

* I have every reaſon to declare, that by urging the neceſſity of an immediate bleeding, and breaking through medical *etiquette*, in conſultation, a lady's life of the firſt rank was ſaved; which might have been loſt, had the phyſicians with myſelf retired to another room to conſult. This gave great offence, though the exigency of the caſe required the prompteſt remedy.

To illuſtrate this ſubject more clearly; let it be ſuppoſed that a man had fallen into a large reſervoir of water, and was in immediate danger of being ſuffocated, or drowned.

To ſave life, emptying the reſervoir was immediately neceſſary: but for this purpoſe two methods preſented themſelves; the one by pulling out a large plug from the reſervoir itſelf; the other, by running *a mile* to turn a cock fixed at the end of a long communicating tube. In the former, by the ſudden diſcharge of the water, death is prevented; in the latter, by delay it is inevitable. Which meaſure would common ſenſe, or humanity, purſue, under ſuch a circumſtance of preſſing and immediate danger?

The communicating ſmall tube at a mile diſtance would in time certainly empty the reſervoir, but not ſoon enough to ſave a human life; nor will emptying a blood veſſel, remote from the brain, rationally anſwer the alarming and rapid exigency of an apoplectic caſe.

A much ſpeedier method preſents itſelf. A few drops of blood from the noſe in the

phrenitis,

phrenitis, or *delirium*, has inſtantaneouſly recovered the patient's ſenſes, when cupping, bleeding, or leeches have proved ineffectual. Nature's laws ſhould be imitated.

A prejudiced and unexamined opinion, dangerous error, and pertinacious obſtinacy, defend bleeding in a remote vein, or even ſolemnly *forbid* the operation in moſt apoplectic caſes; while the practice of bleeding in the temporal artery, the *jugular*, or occipital veins, has anatomy, phyſiology, pathology, ſucceſsful experience, and common ſenſe for its ſupport *.

If the banks of a river were overflowing, and threatening devaſtation to the neighbouring country, would a prudent man loſe time in running to a diſtant ſluice to remove the danger, when a ſluice is near, capable of carrying off the water immediately? Or would any one employ a ſnail, inſtead of a fleet horſe, on any occaſion which required expedition? There are ſeveral caſes in phyſic that require

* Neither the temporal artery, nor external jugulars, immediately communicate with the *cerebrum* and *cerebellum*, but they are neareſt, and empty immediately the diſtended veſſels of the face, eyes, &c. and prevent ſtagnations in the veins.

require a quick, penetrating diſcernment, and rapid execution, in which the tardy determinations of ſolemn dulneſs, or ſlow ſtupidity, would moſt aſſuredly fail.

In the ſanguineous apoplexy, during the firſt force of the paroxyſm, ſudden death is to be apprehended; there is no other alternative, than to bleed immediately; ſhould an effuſion of blood in the brain even happen, ſleepy ſymptoms, cold ſweats, or ſtupor, and death, ſucceed: the phyſician is conſcious of having performed his duty, and this to every feeling mind is an infinite ſatisfaction.

The principal ſymptoms which determine the neceſſity of bleeding are plethora, a turgency of the veſſels of the face, *tunica conjunctiva* of the eyes; inflation, redneſs, or lividneſs of the face; difficult and ſtertorous reſpiration; floridity and diſtenſion of the veſſels in the lips; and the operation ſhould be performed promptly; for the blood once coagulating in the veins, all hopes of reſtoring life are at an end.*

There

* I have opened ſeveral apoplectic caſes after death, and always found effuſions of blood in different parts of the brain, or its ventricles, &c.; and theſe appearances, which cannot be diſputed,

There are, however, two distinct species of apoplexy to be accurately distinguished from

puted, determined me to recommend and practise bleeding in the *jugular*, &c.

About sixteen or seventeen years ago, I was called to a person who appeared dead from an apoplectic stroke. There were two practitioners in the surgery line before I arrived, they had attempted bleeding in both arms without success, and considered the patient as dead, or past all hopes of recovery. Perceiving a lancet in the mouth of one of the surgeons, I snatched it, and made a large orifice in the jugular vein, against the united voice and clamor of the relations, who supposed their friend's throat cut; blood immediately issued forth, and in two or three minutes both the veins in the arms began to bleed. During the loss of two or three pounds of blood, the patient began to sneeze, and faintly breathe, and, in short, soon after recovered. This gentleman lodged at that time at a Mr. Shield's, shoemaker, in the middle of New Street, Covent Garden; he lived many years after, and, perhaps, is alive at this time.

Another gentleman, well known in the great world, had frequent apoplectic attacks; the blood used to force up through the carotids with an amazing pulsatory violence; the face was first red, then blackish. I happened to be in the house three several times, and always saved him by taking away an immense quantity of blood. After the operation he dozed, and gradually the next day recovered. He knew very little of his dangerous situation.

A servant who had lived formerly with this very gentleman, and lives with Lady W—, near my house, when I lived in Harley Street, had an apoplectic attack, and appeared dead. I directed Mr. Humpage to bleed profusely, which restored the man immediately.

Profuse purging, antimonial diaphoretics, volatiles, sinapisms, and blisters, are likewise necessary.

from the natural conſtitution, or patient's health.

The *ſanguineous*, happening to the more florid, robuſt, plethoric, and corpulent; the other, the *pituitous*, is common to the pale, gouty, and exhauſted. The prognoſtics of both are nearly the ſame as to danger, but the treatment ſhould be different; for the former requires a profuſe, the latter a ſmaller veneſection. Theſe methods of cure ſhould be adapted more to the exigence of the caſe, habits, ways of life, and peculiar individual circumſtances of the patient, than to thoſe fallacious guides, general ſymptoms; which conſtitute, indeed, the *definition* or character of a diſeaſe, but rarely point out the various *individual*, or beſt curative intentions.

Before phyſicians preſcribe for nervous, hyſterical patients, the length of time the diſorder has ravaged in the conſtitution ſhould be conſidered; the methods af cure already adopted, and their effects: it is abſurd to repeat what has already failed.

a. In recent and accidental attacks, when there be no reaſon to conclude the viſcera in a diſ-

a diſeaſed ſtate, light ſtomachic laxatives and antiſpaſmodics will often ſucceed.

b. When the nervous affection has been of longer duration, or when it is more owing to delicacy of body, and exquiſite ſenſibility of mind, than to any accidental cauſes, the antiſpaſmodics will not only be neceſſary, but tonics, or ſtrengthening medicines; ſuch as bark, ſteel, vitriolic preparations, abſtinence from watery diet, as tea, &c. and an indulgence, according to the ſtrength of the ſtomach, in the moſt nutritious animal food.

c. When the nervous diſorder has continued many months or years, and it may be juſtly concluded, that neither antiſpaſmodics nor corroboratives will prove ſerviceable, owing to the *viſcera* being too *deeply* diſeaſed; then a long courſe of mild alteratives ſhould be inſtituted, and long continued; while the moſt urgent ſymptoms ſhould be alleviated with palliating antiſpaſmodics.

There are few nervous caſes, unleſs the *viſcera* be very *unſound*, that will not yield to one of the antecedent modes of treatment; this, abundance of practical experience has amply proved.

The

The alteratives which have moſt ſucceeded are from No. 51 to 59 of the preſcriptions, and likewiſe the following:

No. 74. ℞. Sulph. aurat. ant. ʒij.
Merc. dulc. ſexies ſub. ppt. & lot. ʒj. tere ſimul in mortario vitreo per viij. horas f. pulvis.
℞. Hujus pulver. ℈j.
Conſ. roſar. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xx. quarum ſumat unam mane & nocte, ſuperbibendo coch. ij. miſturæ ſequentis.

No. 75. ℞. Tart. antimonial. gr. j. ſolve in
Aq. pur. ʒj.
℞. Hujus ſolutionis ʒſs.
Julep. e camph. ʒviſs.
Tinct. valerian. ʒj. M.

Or,

No. 76. ℞. Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ʒvj.
Pulv. e tragacanth. comp. ʒij. M. f. pulvis dividendus in xx. doſes, quarum capiat unam ter de die in coch. ij. julep. e camphora.

Or,

No. 77. ℞. Æthiop. min. ʒij. ſyr. balſam. q. s. f. pilulæ No. xxiv. quarum ſumat iv. bis vel ter de die, ſuperbibendo coch. ij. miſturæ, No. 62.

Many other preſcriptions may be invented, as cauſe-removing remedies.

Coſtiveneſs during the adminiſtration of theſe, and all other remedies, ſhould be pre-

vented, not by ſalts, but ſtomachic laxatives *; the alteratives require to be continued many months, nay, ſometimes years, before a radical cure can be effected †.

7. There is nothing more erroneous than the aſſertion, that mental perturbation cannot be relieved by the art of medicine. A number of diſeaſes, not perfectly curable, can be mitigated; the art extends no farther: but to deny relief, becauſe we cannot effect a radical cure, is inhuman. Mental affections are often relieved by a compaſſionate and ſincere ſympathy in affliction, by fetid, antiſpaſmodic remedies, air, exerciſe, and diverting the mind from the depreſſing objects. It is the office

* Some phyſicians even of eminence preſcribe *ſalts*, as though we had no other laxative. Salts are more proper for the athletic, robuſt, and florid, and in inflammatory fevers, than for pale, nervous, and relaxed patients.

† One very remarkable caſe of a lady, a patient of Mr. Hogarth's, Swallow Street, who had laboured under all the miſerable nervous ſymptoms ever experienced, for above fifteen years, and who had travelled all over Europe to obtain advice of the firſt phyſicians, and who went to moſt of the water-drinking places; but all without any good effect. I being conſulted, concluded the failure to be owing to diſeaſed viſcera, and immediately purſued an alterative courſe, which was continued ſeveral years. The lady obtained the moſt perfect health, which at preſent ſhe happily enjoys.

office of medicine to unite theſe endeavours, and all others, that can rationally alleviate human miſery, even where no poſitive cure may be expected.

8. Air, exerciſe on foot and horſeback, or in a coach, according to circumſtances and ſeaſons, amuſements and diverſions, greatly contribute to aſſiſt the operation of medicine, and ſhould never in nervous hyſteric diſeaſes be omitted.

9. All diſtreſſing objects, all melancholy ſtories, ſhould be concealed from the nervous and ſuſceptible; their tender frame is agitated by the mereſt trifles from ſympathy. The effects of ſympathy are aſtoniſhing. The moſt amiable and philanthropic minds, ſhocking to reflect! are moſt puniſhed through life; while the unfeeling and worthleſs ſcarcely ever experience ſympathetic concern. A great part of the miſeries of the nervous are certainly imaginary; preſent ſorrow, future apprehenſions, occupy the mind with an uncontrolled ſway. The diſorder to the afflicted is as real as any other the human body is ſubject to, and equally merits a ſedulous attention, and humane compaſſion.

A re-

A recent inſtance of the effects of ſympathy has appeared in the public prints; which ſhews the ſurpriſing power of imagination from ſudden horror, in producing convulſive, or epileptic fits, and their eaſy communication from one female to another, ſimilar to thoſe already mentioned *.

It

* There is no occaſion to credit myſterious and concealed, or falſe cauſes, promulgated by knaves and jugglers; for every experienced practitioner in medicine muſt have ſeen numerous inſtances in families, where the lady's hyſteric complaints have been communicated, or transferred to a female attendant; this again has communicated the faintings, fits, &c. to other females in the kitchen, who have been ſuſceptible, timid, and compaſſionate. Such attacks originate in the mind being affected with terror, ſurpriſe, or ſome frightful impreſſion, and the fits often continue through life; which by every day's practice in this great town is fully proved, without pretended *magnetic* powers, &c. How are magnetic effects produced? People are agitated, walk, and propheſy in their ſleep; give divine anſwers to earthly queſtions, fall into ſtrong convulſions, foam at the mouth. I anſwer; by ignorance and credulity people perſuade themſelves of any impoſſibility: in all ages it has been the ſame, from times moſt ancient. *Lucian* had his falſe *prophet*, who deluded the Emperor and all Rome. Bruſſels boaſts of the man who brought all the world together to ſee him walk, in imitation of Our Saviour, on the water. The bottle conjuror, the Cock-lane ghoſt, the oyſter which *walked* when *aſleep*, are all recent in every one's memory. Learning and good ſenſe condemned theſe follies with reaſon and ridicule: but credulity and ignorance bore down, like a torrent, every ſo-

ber

It appears, the ſame effects have been produced in different countries: amongſt the volatile

ber reflection before them. While the rage and folly laſted, mankind were deaf to the voice of truth; and nothing but the experience of being *duped*, which few like to acknowledge, brought them to their ſober ſenſes again; then the myſteries drop, and the impoſtors are deſpiſed, until ſome new impoſition appears.

Hoffman and the German writers have faith in perſons being poſſeſſed by the devil, and have written grave, medical treatiſes on the ſubject. The power of witchcraft is chaſed away from this and other countries by the lights of philoſophy, very lately. The ſuperſtitions of ghoſts, apparitions, hobgoblins, and departed ſpirits re-appearing, ſtill are believed by vulgar minds. *Ridicula ſuperſtitio!*

Extract of a Letter from Preſton, Lancaſhire, March 8, 1787.

"The manufacturers employed by Meſſrs. Pedders and Emett, in their ſpinning works, at Hodder-bridge, near this town, were lately much alarmed by an uncommon diſtemper breaking out, and ſpreading amongſt them with great rapidity.

"Upon Wedneſday, February the 14th, a healthy young woman dropped down ſuddenly in ſtrong convulſions, and remained in that ſituation near twenty-four hours, with only a few ſlight intervals of about ten minutes each. After this time the convulſions returned for ſeveral days, in fits of a quarter of an hour, and of four hours continuance, but with much longer intervals. Upon the Friday following, another perſon who had worked with this woman, was alſo affected in the ſame manner; upon Saturday, eight more; upon Sunday, ſix; and upon Monday, four.

"The

volatile and chearful French; amongſt the cold, phlegmatic Dutch, who are ſurrounded with

"The patients had little or no warning of the approach of the fits, but fell down ſpeechleſs, and remained perfectly delirious during their continuance, with the body bent backwards, and ſo powerfully convulſed, that five or ſix people were ſcarcely ſufficient to prevent a young girl from biting or tearing herſelf, or daſhing her head againſt the walls or floor. Upon Sunday, the terrors of theſe people, and all around them, were increaſed to the higheſt pitch, by the ſpreading of the complaint; and ſtill more, by the inefficacy of all the means yet tried for their recovery, and the dreadful idea, that their diſeaſe was the plague, or ſome ſimilar infection introduced by the cotton.

"A phyſician of this place being conſulted, diſcovered that the diſeaſe was entirely nervous; that the perſon firſt affected had been thrown into that ſituation by the wanton application of a living mouſe to her cheek, an animal which had always excited in her a kind of horror; and that the reſt, who were chiefly young women, had been affected merely by a kind of ſympathetic contagion. The application of electricity, of nervous medicines, but, above all, the *ſeparation* of the patients, and the quieting of their apprehenſions, by aſſurances of ſpeedy recovery, ſoon put a ſtop to the progreſs of the diſorder, and effected a cure: inſomuch, that they are all at work again, and have had no return of the complaint ſince."

The above is a ſtriking inſtance of the powerful influence of fear, and other paſſions of the mind upon the body, well known, indeed, to gentlemen of the faculty, but ſcarcely credible to thoſe who have not had opportunities of obſerving their effects.

Such hiſtories ſhould guard mankind from ſuffering children, but girls in particular, from the ſight of all objects that can produce ſuch effects; for epileptic fits, and even loſs of ſenſes, have been

with large ſwamps, canals, and the ſtupifying fumes of tobacco; amongſt the Engliſh, likewiſe, the ſame phenomena have appeared. The ſudden force of imagination at terrible ſights, then, of perſons apparently dead,

been the conſequence for life. One of the *magnetic amuſers* has perſuaded a credulous, nervous young man, that he can by magnetiſm render his hand as tranſparent as glaſs, and no arguments can operate ſo as to make him believe the contrary.

"*Fools* are the game which *knaves* purſue." Any impudent pretender, who can bring his mind to act an infamous part, has only to be determined to conclude all mankind fools: let a bait be hung out, the more improbable the better, and folly will always enliſt under his ſtandard. A man who was groom to a riding-maſter in this town, turned urine doctor, and has ſucceeded to admiration, by having an artificial *worm* put into a bottle of ſpirts, by which ſtood a miſerable-looking meagre Frenchman, pretending that the Doctor had brought the worm away from him. This was ſcarcely ever ſuſpected, till the *Doctor* and *Worm manufacturer* quarrelled, and then the roguery was expoſed. Thouſands of theſe deceptions have ever been practiſed; and they muſt ever ſucceed in large cities, where freſh fools always arrive. People do not know, that the powers of the mind are often ſo weakened by the diſeaſes of the body, that men appear, to penetrating obſervers, quite different perſons in health, as when under diſeaſe. Hope and fear are the grand movers of the human mind; deceivers ſtudy how to apply properly to them both; and they ſucceed.

dead, in fits, or convulſed, have produced ſimilar effects, which naturally aroſe from timidity, have been infamouſly by the *magnetic* impoſtors called *les criſes*; and they have impudently aſſerted, in France and elſewhere, that ſome unperceived, undiſcoverd *magnetic fluid* produced theſe ſtrong ſymptoms; whereas they aroſe from weak, credulous minds, abounding in fear, and put in action by ſudden ſurpriſe, or tedious, prealarmed expectation.

On ſeveral nervous Symptoms.

Nervous people are, by the nature of the diſeaſe, fickle, giddy, inconſtant, diffident, and impatient, and often become their own enemies, by flying from ſkill and ſincerity to any ignorant pretender of medicine. They often attribute their miſerable ſymptoms to the remedies given. They ſhould be told the difficulty of curing their diſeaſe, and the neceſſity of a ſteady adherence to what is preſcribed; for they often do irreparable evil by changing their phyſicians. If in any part of *medicine* the proverb of "*ſine fide nulla ſalus*," can be applied,

applied, it is to the nervous. Where there is no faith, there is no cure.

The innumerable ſymptoms afflicting the nervous and hyſteric patients ariſe chiefly from ſympathy. The nervous conſent of parts is truly wonderful, and extremely curious; but can be demonſtrated by diſſecting for the nerves, and particularly the *par vagum* and intercoſtal, their *ganglions* and connections. Thoſe who aſſert medicine is in the dark with regard to nervous diſeaſes, are deceived, and betray an inexcuſable ignorance of the extent of the art: they are eaſily accounted for, though their cure may prove difficult. There is through the whole human frame a ſurpriſing nervous conſent and ſympathy. Scratches in the feet, hands, or wriſts, I have ſeen produce, in the Weſt Indies, that horrid, fatal diſorder, the *locked jaw*. Hippocrates ſaid very juſtly of the human body, "*that there was one conflux*, "*one conſpiration, and, that all the parts* "*conſented.*"

Galen ſuppoſed all hyſteric complaints to ariſe from a retention of the *ſemen*; he ingeniouſly and plauſibly accounts for ſympathy

by the property of the *magnet* attracting iron, though they be not in immediate contact.

The medical philoſophy of the ancients was, in general, aſſertions without proofs; ingenious reaſonings without demonſtrations, or concluſive experiments. I, who have waded through their maſſy volumes with unremitting ardor many years, am thorougly convinced, if the major part of the ancients were deſtroyed, nothing would be loſt to the republic of letters. An inquiry into the ancients, and the progreſs of ſcience, are curious; but the important diſcoveries and ocular demonſtrations of the moderns are infinitely more uſeful*. Neither much reading, claſſical learning, nor meditation, form the complete practical phyſician, without a happy *genius* to direct judiciouſly the application of medicines from vegetables, minerals, chemicals, and a proper uſe of the non-naturals.

The

* Whoever wiſhes to ſee a full account of ancient medical learning may conſult my *Hiſtoria* and *Schola Medicinæ*, in which the whole is arranged in ſo conciſe a manner, as to be comprehended with very little labor.

The hyſteric ſymptoms may be arranged under the claſſes of *natural, vital,* and *animal functions*, their ſeveral cauſes, and general remedies.

A dry Skin.

If ariſing from debility in the minute arterial ſyſtem, it is beſt removed by tonics; if from obſtructed pores, by the retention of the perſpirable matter, by antimonial, and other diaphoretics, tepid water or dry vapor baths; if from the loſs of the contractile arterial powers, ſimilar to palſy, by volatiles, ſtimulating liniments, blifters, and frictions; which laſt remedy is very uſeful in all caſes of impeded perſpiration. The pores of the ſkin are ſo minute, that *a grain of ſand*, according to Leuwenhoek's calculation, will cover 125,000 of the perſpiring pores. According to Sanctorius, out of *eight pounds* of food, *five* paſs off by perſpiration: this, however, is very difficult to aſcertain, as it varies in all people, and in all climates*.

If

* Gorter, in Holland, makes forty-ſix to fifty-ſix ounces; Keill, in England, between thirty-one and forty-two ounces, which paſs off daily.

If a dry ſkin ſhould ariſe from profuſe evacuations of urine, alvine feces, or the menſes, theſe require checking by vitriolic acids, aſtringents, or tonics.

Profuſe Sweating, or increaſed Perſpiration.

Profuſe ſweating is commonly a ſign of great debility. It is attendant on conſumptive diſeaſes and hectic fevers; therefore, unleſs the cauſe can be removed, which is frequently impoſſible, the increaſed and weakening perſpirations cannot be checked without danger of purgings, increaſed fever, or difficult breathing.

When acrimony in the perſpirable matter is the cauſe, cinnabarine alteratives and correctors of the prevailing acrimony, and inſpiſſating the blood, are uſeful.

If from laxity of the pores, and too large a portion of ſerum, corroborants, abſtinence from weak liquids, and preparations which ſtrengthen the relaxed fibres, are neceſſary, bark, ſteel, vitriolic preparations, &c.

By proper evacuants of urine and the feces.

Cool dry air, cremor tartar, moderate exerciſe, but, above all, an extremely rigid abſtinence from liquids of all ſorts, will moſt avail.

Wind, or Flatulency in the Stomach.

There is always a quantity of air in the ſtomach and inteſtines; but it may collect ſometimes in *one part*, ſometimes *in another*, and cauſe a painful over-diſtenſion; this ſuperabundance fixing in any part, or in the ſtomach particularly, cauſes what is called oppreſſion with wind.

The ſtomach often attempts to force it up or downwards; but the termination of the œſophagus, or gullet, or the beginning of the pylorus, being contracted, wind is retained there ſome time, occaſioning painful hiccups, ſickneſs, tremors, and convulſions.

It is impoſſible to determine how far the ſtomach may be diſtended by the elaſticity of the air. It is known, that what was detained in a *cubical inch*, may expand ſo as to fill a ſpace of 146 inches*.

Atmoſ-

* Hales.

Atmoſpheric air has been reduced into 1838 times leſs ſpace than it before poſſeſſed; and it has been rarefied and ſwelled, ſo as to fill a ſpace 4000 times greater*.

Air may be deprived of its elaſticity by the burning of brimſtone, as is known in vinous fermentations.

Muſſchenbroek obſerved, that a particle of air in boiling water expanded itſelf to 46,656,000,000 greater than it appeared before.

Without adverting to calculations, I have made experiments upon all ſorts of vegetables, and find that leguminous foods, as beans, peaſe, &c. ſend forth the greateſt quantites of air in digeſtion; boiled vegetables, fruits, and ſallads, leſs; animal foods, unleſs in a ſtate of putrefaction, the leaſt of all.

It is almoſt certain, that an immenſe quantity of air paſſes through the minute veins of the ſtomach and inteſtines; for there is always a great quantity tranſpiring through the ſkin, and air is mixed with all the human fluids and ſolids, and particularly reſides in the cellular ſtructure.

The

* Muſſchenbroek.

The air being detained in the ſtomach or inteſtines, either by the impervioufneſs of the minute imperceptible veſſels, or by the debility of the ſtomach and inteſtinal canal, are the probable general cauſes of all the diſmal and painful ſenſations ariſing from wind *.

As leguminous food, fruits, and vegetables, are productive of flatulency, they ſhould be avoided by weak, nervous patients, and animal foods ſhould be preferred.

Stimulating cordials and carminatives palliate the ſymptoms ariſing from wind, as ſpirits, ginger, caraway ſeeds, aniſeeds, *confectio cardiaca*, cinnamon water, &c.; but medical intentions are beſt anſwered by forcing the flatus downwards, by carminatives, and laxatives of the bitter ſtomachic kind.

Aloetics and ſoap, ginger and rhubarb, before meals, or ſuch remedies; or lac ſulphur, magneſia, and ginger, are proper, and prevent coſtiveneſs.

To

* Deſtructo inteſtinorum tono, alvina evacuatio recte ſe non habet & flatulentiæ & ſpaſmi multas moleſtias creant.—*Hoffman.*

To correct and counteract the air itſelf, *lime water* and abſorbents often ſucceed; but nothing anſwers the purpoſe ſo well as drinking not above a ſmall diſh of tea or coffee in the morning and evening, avoiding all vegetables, and living chiefly on animal diet, and well fermented bread *.

Hiccups.

Hiccups may happen without any ill-conſequence from a full ſtomach, and it is cured by

* See my treatiſe on diet, and the effects of different foods, &c.

Anatomical diſſections after death in flatulency.

The ſtomach has been found highly inflamed, has burſt in ſome inſtances, and immediately proved fatal.

Inteſtina, flatibus diſtenta callo arctata, verminoſa, tumoribus multis obducta. Stupendæ dilatationes cœci & coli. Vermes, flatus in abdominis cavo, aëris maſſa a peritonæo cohibita, inculpatis inteſtinis.

Hepar ſcirrhoſum, putridum, contractum, induratum cum cyſtide fellea atrabile ad crepaturam turgente.

Lien ampliſſimus, nunc valde exiguus.

Epiploon quibuſdam inflammatum, vel putredine abſumtum.

Pancreas ſcirrhoſum, tabidum, putridum.

Menſenterium infarctum.

In abdomine colluvies ſeroſa, parca tamen copia ſtagnans.

by ſurpriſe, a draught of cold water, vinegar, or a little ſpirits; which remedies, likewiſe, remove the diſorder when ariſing from ſmall particles of food ſticking to the œſophagus, &c.

Hiccups, though in health they often happen without diſeaſe, yet in the laſt ſtage of putrid and other fevers, diarrhœa, and dyſentery, they are accounted a fatal ſymptom.

Singultus or hiccups depend principally on the *diaphragm*, which by an irritation of the œſophagus, or diſtenſion of the ſtomach, &c. by conſent of parts, aſcends and deſcends in a convulſive manner, and not according to regular inſpiration and expiration *.

If

* The ſingultus or hiccups are accidental or chronical, and may ariſe from a variety of cauſes, as ſuppreſſions of common evacuations, *gout*, *ſaburra* in the ſtomach, *worms*, *violent emetics*, or *cathartics*, *poiſons*, a *prolapſus* of the *cartilago xiphoidea*, luxation of fracture of the ribs, or by any tumors preſſing or impeding the diaphragm in its action. Internally it may ariſe from inflammation of any of the viſcera, ileus, cholera, dyſentery, hæmorrhages, &c.

Anatomical Diſſections after Death.

Inveniuntur innumeræ *pectoris* læſiones, *pulmones* inflammati, purulenti. *Stomachus* bile vel ſaburra ſcatens, gangrenoſus, ſcirrhoſus,

If hiccups ariſe from the flatulent ſtomach during digeſtion, they ſhould be treated as flatulency, by carminatives, and directing the flatus downwards, and removing the anti-periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines, which often force up the wind.

The inflated ſtomach acting on the diaphragm from diſtenſion, cloſes the tube towards the œſophagus; this contraction reſiſts the air which the ſtomach attempts to expel.

Aſafœtida, camphor, valerian, ginger, and antiſpaſmodics, volatile alkalies, &c. are excellent palliatives, and often remove the complaint, eſpecially if joined with carminatives. *Calcined magneſia* is uſeful.

Stricture in the œſophagus.

The wind forced from the ſtomachs of nervous patients ſometimes remains in the *œſophagus*

ſcirrhoſus, inflammatus ultra modum dilatatus; cujus *nervi* nonnunquam a tumore in vicinis partibus premuntur: a ſede depulſus.

Hepar ampliſſimum, inflammatum, æque ac alia inteſtina, renes, veſica, aliave abdominis viſcera.

Omentum ſcirrhoſum, craſſum, ventriculum deorſum, trahens peritonæo agglutinatum.

Paſſim annotantur, putredines, gangrenæ, &c.

phagus or throat, and threatens ſuffocation, by compreſſing on the windpipe, and large veins, returning blood from the head. This is relieved by antiſpaſmodics, ſpirit of lavender, and ſpiritus volatilis fœtidus, drank in ginger tea, calcined magneſia, &c.

An oily mixture, in which the water is united to the oil by ſpt. c. c., will often remove the ſtricture, when other remedies fail.

If the difficulty of ſwallowing ariſe from inflammations, ſpaſms, or tumors about the fauces, œſophagus, or neighbouring parts, or ulcers, the primary cauſes muſt be removed. The ſame is to be obſerved, if by conſent of parts it ſhould happen, as inflammation of the diaphragm, ſtomach, inteſtines, liver, or other viſcera, the ſtomach has been forced from its ſeat by relaxation of its connecting parts, or by an overweight of fat.

The Cardialgia, or Heartburn.

Is a hot, pungent pain in the ſtomach, cauſed by ſome acrimony irritating its nerves; or

or it originates from other viſceral diſeaſes, by conſent of parts.

If acidity in the ſtomach be the cauſe, which is known by acid, ſharp eructations, abſorbents are uſeful, as chalk, prepared oyſter ſhells, &c. magneſia, and lac ſulphuris; or any of the volatile alkaline ſpirits, as ſpiritus ſalis ammoniaci volatilis; the ſal ſodæ; or ſal lixivium tartari, to ten drops, with bitter ſtomachics, lime water, &c. Theſe neutraliſe acidity. Rhubarb and ginger are proper before meals.

The *limatura martis præparata* is likewiſe excellent, eſpecially when debility and pallor accompany theſe ſymptoms.

In the acid cardialgia, milk and ſweetened food increaſe the violence of the pain; for milk coagulates by the contact of the acid in the ſtomach; and all ſweets are converted into a ſharp acid humor, when acidities abound.

Cinnabarine preparations, with magneſia, are ſometimes uſeful.

A *rancid acrimony* is likewiſe amongſt the cauſes of the heartburn, which is perceived by oily, rancid, putrid, and ſulphureous belchings. In this ſpecies, aloetic elixirs, and

and ſtomachic ſpirituous tinctures; vitriolic acids, with or without bark; Hoffman's anodyne liquor, and ſimilar preparations, are uſeful.

In the rancid heartburn, eggs, oil, and fat meats, are highly improper.

In many caſes in which death has enſued, where the heartburn ſeemed to be the predominating complaint, various parts of the thoracical and abdominal viſcera have been tumified, ſcirrhous, or otherwiſe diſeaſed. In theſe inſtances, the heartburn was only a ſymptom *.

The

* *Anatomical Diſſections after Death.*

Bilis acerrima vel æruginoſa in ſtomacho, lapilli biliares, ſanguis extravaſa.—Ventriculus flatulentia vel cibis in immenſam molem diſtentus, a ſede depulſus; ejus tunicæ craſſiores, occalleſcentes, inflammatæ, purulentæ, ulceratæ, intus & extra exeſæ, putridæ, gangræno ſæ, ſcirrhoſæ, cancroſæ, tumores, ſarcoſes, verrucæ, puſtulæ, vermes, lapides, extranea, deglutita, metallica, lapidea.

Pylorus tumidus ſcirrhoſus, ulceroſus, aut valde relaxatus.

Duodenum morboſum, diſtenſum flatibus.

Hepar ſcirrhoſum, inflammatum, purulentum, putridum, morbidus lien, pancreas, meſenterium, omentum, &c.

Veſicula fellea ad crepaturam referta; concretionum biliarium ſtupendus numerus.

Herniæ epiploicæ, procidentiæ ventriculi, lienis, &c.

Aneuriſma

The terrene abſorbent earths, if not diſſolved in the ſtomach by the aërial acid, or acid humor, they remain in the ſtate they were taken, and lay heavy.

In chronic caſes, with debility, mineral waters have ſucceeded; for acidities, the chalybeate; for the rancid acrimony, Seltzer, and ſimilar waters, are to be preferred.

The cure, then, of the heartburn, chiefly depends on different modes of treatment, by acids and alkalies; ſtomachics and tonics; carminatives and aloetics, æthiops, or cinnabar: but in the uſe of either acid or alkali, great judgment is neceſſary in preſcribing the proper quantity, to *ſaturate* or correct the offending matter.

Voracious Appetite, or Bulimus,

Is an unnatural and keen appetite for food.

The patient has a continual craving for food, and eats with uncommon eagerneſs, but receives little nouriſhment.

The

Aneuriſma aortæ vel cœliacæ arteriæ.
Cordis immenſa moles.
Mediaſtini & pericardii phlogoſis.

The *cauſes* are, a ſharp gaſtric acrimonious juice, poured into the ſtomach by the arterial orifices, or exhaling arteries; from depraved blood, *depraved exhalations* ariſe in the ſtomach, and other parts.

Worms are likewiſe the cauſe of this hungry ſenſation.

There are examples of men, at one meal, devouring above forty pounds of meat, with an almoſt incredible quantity of bread and wine *.

Aloetic purges, and correctors of acidity, are the remedies; but, above all, changing the acrid ſtate of the blood by æthiops mineral, cinnabarine, and other metallic alteratives; theſe have cured where all common remedies have been uſed in vain. The viſcera are commonly diſeaſed, and ſtomachic remedies cannot rationally be expected to ſucceed, though they may act as auxiliaries during

* I remember a man ſome years ago, who was a German, and famous for ſwallowing ſeveral pounds of large pebble ſtones, which could be rattled one againſt the other, by ſtriking the ſtomach. This man could eat ſix or eight pounds of meat every meal; but he always appeared very meagre and pale.

during the radical cure, which requires patience and perſeverance in the remedies *.

Worms.

Anthelmintics are neceſſary for worms, as calomel and aloetics, aſafœtida, or garlic, or purges; to which are added the *ſal ſodæ*, borax, or pulvis ſabinæ; for theſe laſt remedies, by diſlodging part of the *mucus* adhering to the inteſtinal canal, oblige the worms, which ſtick like leeches to the inteſtines, to let go their hold, and by this means they are effectually evacuated. Cremor tartar and aloetics effect the ſame. Peruvian bark and chalybeate preparations.

Depraved Appetite, &c.

A diſinclination or loathing of food is called a depraved appetite.

Authors

* Sectiones cadaverum.

Stomachus ultra modum turgens: in ejus cavo cruor ſtagnans, colluvies atramenti inſtar nigra; bilis æruginoſa, & quaſi vitriolica; pylorus laxior, ductus biliaris in ventriculum hians. Stupendus proventus lumbricorum, ſolium, ſive lumbricus latus. Lien ſtupendæ magnitudinis. Hepar ampliſſimum.

Authors give many names to this diſorder, according to the degree or peculiarities of affection, as *dyſorexia*, *anorexia*, *pica*, *malacia*, &c. &c.

It happens to pregnant women; and it is ſurpriſing what ſtrange fancies have poſſeſſed their imagination, in deſiring abſurd things for food, as roſin, pitch, tar, greaſe, ſtone, brimſtone, ſhells, dirt, clay, &c. and they often greedily eat theſe things without injury. A diſeaſed ſtomach is not only prediſpoſing to nervous hyſteric affections, but it often gives riſe to many ſymptoms.

In chlorotic girls ſimilar diſeaſes are ſometimes obſerved *.

Cauſes. Debility of ſtomach and depraved blood, with a relaxing acrimonious gaſtric juice, rendering the ſtomach ſo feeble, that by repeated experience, from effects of various foods, the mind abhors the very ſight or ſmell of any.

Whatever the ſtomach has repeatedly rejected, impreſſes the mind, and occaſions future diſlike; ſo that the bare mention of cer-

* See *Chloroſis*.

tain things create diſguſt, naufea, or vomiting *.

Cure. During pregnancy, little is to be attempted; magneſia, lac ſulphuris, and ginger, or volatiles, are moſt proper.

In the chlorotic, the primary diſorder is to be removed.

For the nervous and hyſteric, aloetic laxatives, correctors of the particular acrimony, abſtinence from tea, and all watery relaxing liquids; bark, ſteel, chalybeate, or Seltzer water, air and exerciſe, are uſeful.

Cramps in the Stomach.

An over-contraction, or dilatation of the muſcular coat of the ſtomach, may be denominated a cramp of the ſtomach.

Cauſes. Whatever violently irritates the nerves of the ſtomach, ſo as to act with force on

* A perſon, it has been known, who has taken one or two doſes of ipecacuanha, will be eaſily ruffled by the ſight of this drug, and feel in his ſtomach a diſagreeable ſenſation. Thoſe who remember taking jalap, or buckthorn, or any other naufeous drug, in their infancy, will eaſily produce, by recollection, diſguſt in their minds by the bare recital of the drugs, &c. Diſagreeable foods or drinks produce the ſame effects.

on its muſcular coat. It can originate, likewiſe, from rheumatiſm, gout, and other diſorders, as a ſymptom.

The *dilatation* is commonly ariſing from wind.

The *contraction*, from the acrimony of the fluids circulating in the muſcular coat, ſhortening or contracting the fibres of the muſcles *.

Cure. The diſtenſion ſhould be removed by carminatives, aloetic purgatives with calomel, and antiſpaſmodics.

The

* Theſe dilatations and contractions are eaſily conceived when the action of dilatation and contraction of the ſtomach is conſidered, as being full or empty. I have ſeen many caſes of extreme diſtenſion; one in particular, from eating peaſe, where the ſtomach ſwelled in the form of a little mount, appearing rather conical. The pain and diſtreſs in this caſe were inexpreſſible: for the wind, which was its principal cauſe, increaſed the ſtomach in bulk to an enormous degree, and could neither aſcend nor deſcend, for both the entrance from the *œſophagus* and the *pylorus* were perfectly, for a conſiderable time, contracted, ſo as to render both orifices impervious. I preſcribed ſome calomel and rhubarb in pills, and an oleaginous mixture, with tincture of ſena, *ſpiritus cornu cervi*, &c. Theſe remedies ſucceeded; and the lady, who is now living, has never had any return of the diſorder, by obſerving a proper regimen, and preventing coſtiveneſs.

The contraction of the ſtomach is moſt difficult to remove, and requires great attention to diet; as in the former caſe a diminution of wind is neceſſary, ſo in the latter, a moderate creation of air is uſeful: the ſtomach, however, is ſo contracted, and its fibres ſo rigid, as to cauſe a very painful reſiſtance to the fermentative proceſs of digeſtion. In proportion as the air extricates itſelf from the food, and diſtends the ſtomach, ſo proportionably is exquiſite pain excited. The ſtomach is ſometimes ſo violently affected, as to be incapable of bearing any ſolid, or ſcarcely liquid food.

All hot ſpirituous liquors and cordials, though they be commonly recommended, are highly improper; for though they give a little temporary eaſe, yet they cauſe an increaſe of the diſorder, which, preventing nutrition, in time proves fatal.

The diet ſhould be light and very ſimple, as panada, toaſted bread ſoaked in beef tea, or barley broth; but always in ſmall quantities, and never very warm.

Meat

Meat in ſmall portions, made tender in dreſſing by ſimmering, and bread, agree with ſome better than liquid food.

The medicines uſed internally ſhould be of the antiſpaſmodic kind, gently laxative, and oleaginous; outwardly fomentations.

The following remedies I have found uſeful:

No. 78. ℞. Julep. e camphor. ʒiv.
Ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒiiſs.
Tinct. ſen. ʒj.
Spt. c. c. ʒj. M. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. ij. bis vel ter in die.

Or,

No. 79. ℞. Ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒiiſs.
Aq. roſar.
—— pur. aa. ʒiiſs.
Mucilag. gum. arab. ʒiij. ſyr. ſimp. q. s. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. j. vel. ij. ad libitum.

An oily draught, with a few drops of oleum aniſi, or other eſſential oils, aſafœtida, camphor, muſk, and valerian, or other antiſpaſmodics, clyſters, or a ſemicupium, will often alleviate the ſymptoms: but if the diſorder continues long, nothing but a *mineral alterative courſe* is likely to eradicate the complaint.

The

The diſorder being ſeated in the minuteſt ſyſtem of veſſels, nothing but what is extremely penetrating and gentle in its operation can anſwer any decided curative intention. Preſcriptions of this nature, however, ſhould be well conſidered; for whatever irritates the ſtomach itſelf, will increaſe, inſtead of curing the diſtemper. Cinnabar, æthiops, crude quickſilver, or lac ſulphur, ſhould firſt be given, and afterwards the more powerful alteratives.

No. 80, ℞. Cinnab. antimon. ppt. ℈ſs.
Pulv. e tragacanth. ℥ij. M. f. pulvis dividendus in xij. doſes, quarum ſumat unam bis vel ter in die, in coch. ij. julep. e camphora.

Phyſicians, who carry their ideas of medicine no farther than to palliate ſymptoms, preſcribe *opium*; this *confirms* the diſeaſe, and renders it afterwards incurable: but in ſome very painful caſes, humanity demands an alleviation of the diſtreſſing ſymptoms; under which circumſtances, medicine is forced to adminiſter mitigators of pain, while the other remedies are operating; the *pilula e ſtorace* to three or five grains, is proper.

Watery Liquid, or Phlegm riſing in the Stomach.

The accumulation of a ſerous liquid in the ſtomach originates in either an increaſed ſaliva deſcending from the mouth, or from relaxation of the orifices of the exhalent minute capillary arteries of the ſtomach, or from an increaſed ſecretion of the pancreatic juice, forced from the *duodenum* to the ſtomach.

It ſometimes occaſions nauſea and vomiting, in which efforts, a limpid liquor is thrown off from the ſtomach.

Theſe various ſpecies commonly ariſe from relaxation, or irritation from different ſtimuli, whoſe acridity ſhould be treated agreeable to their ſpecies, by diluting, changing, or evacuation; or neutraliſed, if acid or alkali, and afterwards with corroborants, as bark, ſteel, &c. An *extreme dry diet* will be neceſſary.

Stomachic purgatives are likewiſe particularly beneficial; for by conveying the offending matter downwards, an opportunity is obtained

tained of removing the relaxation, and giving energy and vigor to the weakened veſſels of the ſtomach by tonical remedies.

Nauſea, or Sickneſs without vomiting,

Is an inclination to vomit without effecting it.

It is an attendant on cardialgia, and a variety of other diſorders, *pregnancy*, &c. occaſioning an averſion for food, an increaſe of ſaliva, diſguſted ideas at the ſight of various objects, loſs of appetite, debility, &c.

If ariſing from *acidity*, it is cured by abſorbents and antiacids; if from *bile*, by gentle laxatives, rhubarb, ſena, cremor tartar, or infus. ſenæ and ſal *diureticus*; if from *worms*, by the anthelmintic remedies.

If from *flatus*, or wind, by carminatives, ſtomachic purges, and antiacids.

In pregnancy it frequently happens from the changes the impregnated uterus occaſions; but this ſymptom, as likewiſe vomiting, vaniſh commonly towards the fifth month; and they ſhould be treated with great gentleneſs, by veneſection, *lac ſulphuris*, *magneſia*, and

and *rhubarb*, or the ſaline, or volatile ſaline draught. As it is ſymptomatic, vomits ſhould never be uſed.

If from ſympathy, or conſent of parts, the primary cauſes muſt be inveſtigated and ſubdued; theſe exiſt, more or leſs, in the *viſcera*.

If from nervous irritability, by antiſpaſmodics, volatile alkaline draught with confectio cardiac. bitters, Hoffman's anodyne liquor, ſpirits of lavender, &c.

Vomits in theſe caſes are dangerous, though very commonly preſcribed. In many diſeaſes of the viſcera, vomits are abſolutely *contra-indicated*; the irritating cauſe in the ſtomach, therefore, ſhould always be conveyed through the inteſtines, and evacuated downwards, particularly in nervous caſes. Violent practices are proper or uſeful to ſtrong conſtitutions, and violent diſeaſes; in delicate nervous females, the gentleſt methods ſhould be preferred, leſt the effects of the remedy might prove more injurious than the diſeaſe.

Vomiting.

A forcible ejection of food, or any other ſubſtance, from the ſtomach, through the œſophagus and mouth, is nominated vomiting.

It is either *idiopathic*, when ariſing from a cauſe in the ſtomach itſelf; or *ſymptomatic*, when originating from diſeaſes ſeated in any other part of the body.

Its immediate cauſe is an antiperiſtaltic, ſpaſmodical, convulſive conſtriction of the ſtomach, preſſure of the diaphragm and abdominal muſcles.

It is an effort of nature to expel whatever moleſts, or is troubleſome in the ſtomach.

The ſpecies of vomiting are alimentary, bilious, pituitous, acetous, lacteous, atrabilious, urinous, or verminous, &c. requiring different treatments, according to their reſpective cauſes.

The *cauſes* are numerous, and ſhould always be well conſidered before any remedy is adminiſtered *.

In

* Vomiting may ariſe from the following, and many more cauſes: but theſe will be ſufficient to ſhew the *inefficacy* and *danger*

In nervous and hyſteric complaints, vomiting originates in the diſorders and affections of

danger of giving *vomits*; which are too frequently and raſhly preſcribed by the vulgar, and particularly by perſons quite ignorant of medicine.

1. From hard drinking.
2. Saburra, or foul ſtomach.
3. Errors in diet during lactation.
4. Dentition.
5. Worms.
6. Hunger.
7. Poiſons.
8. Calloſity of the pylorus; † ſpaſms, or convulſions; hiccups, or contraction of the ſtomach.
9. From hypochondriac and nervous affections, and depraved imagination.
10. Ulcer in the ſtomach.
11. Steatoma in the ſtomach, abſceſs, tumor, or ſcirrhus.
12. Pregnancy.
13. Stony or calcareous concretions in the ſtomach, as in ſome gouty caſes.
14. Bite of a mad dog, from the putrid infection received.
15. Black or yellow bile forced into the ſtomach.

16. Ob-

† A remarkable inſtance of this ſort happened to the child of Mr. *Marchant*, Sutton Street, Soho, who rejected its food conſtantly for many weeks, and was continually in convulſions whenever any food was received into the ſtomach. After many remedies were preſcribed without ſucceſs, the child died, and I opened it in the preſence of Mr. Mainwaring, of the Strand, and Dr. Huber. The *pylorus* was found perfectly callous, imperforate, and greatly thickened. The cauſe of the convulſions and death were clearly inveſtigated; and it ſeemed the ſtomach had abſorbed nutrition a conſiderable time without the lacteal ſyſtem of the inteſtines.

of the head, leſions of the nerves, perturbation of the mind, or vitiated viſcera.

The ſubſtances forced from the ſtomach ſhould be examined; for they are more frequently

16. Obſtruction of the duodenum and inteſtines.

17. Obſtruction, and various diſeaſes of the liver.

18. Stony concretions in the gall bladder, or paſſage through the biliary ducts.

19. Pancreas diſeaſed.

20. Hernias, of various ſpecies.

21. Inflammation of the ſtomach.

22. Several affections of the inteſtines, as colica, cholera morbus, diarrhœa, dyſentery, piles, &c.

23. Gravel or ſtone in kidney or bladder.

24. Abſceſs, inflammation, obſtruction, or ulcer of the œſophagus.

25. A prolapſus of the xiphoid cartilage.

26. Sailing at ſea, riding in a coach, turning the head quickly round, vertigo, &c.

27. Concuſſions, contuſions, fractures, and all diſorders of the head.

28. Every ſpecies of malignant fevers, in particular jail and putrid fevers.

29. *Metaſtaſis*, or tranſlation of morbid fomes from other parts.

30. Suppreſſed menſes, or too great evacuations.

31. Every diſorder almoſt of the womb.

32. Various collections of ſubſtances or matter in the ſtomach, or relaxation.

33. Diſeaſes of the heart and organs of reſpiration.

quently brought from the inteſtines, than originating in the ſtomach itſelf.

Yellow, or dark coloured bile is certainly forced from the *duodenum*; *blood* appearing, from retention, of a blackiſh color, may be effuſed from the rupture of ſome ſmall blood veſſels, by the force of vomiting; or, perhaps, in ſome inſtances, when the exhalent arteries opening on the internal ſurface of the ſtomach are greatly relaxed and irritated, red blood may be forced through their orifices, which are naturally deſtined to carry a limpid ſerum *.

The

* In the inflammations of the eyes, the increaſed action of the arteries frequently force red particles, where ſerum ſhould only paſs in the minute veſſels.

In the laſt ſtage of malignant putrid fevers in the Weſt Indies, red blood, in a putreſcent ſtate, is forced through the pores of the ſkin, in every part of the body. This, though rarely, I have ſeen in 1762 and 1763 at the Havannah, and other parts of the Weſt Indies and America. From this circumſtance, independent of the reports of other authors, I am inclined to believe the ſame poſſible on the whole internal ſurface of the ſtomach and inteſtines, occaſioning the moſt vehement colliquative, and putrid purgings.

In health, a conſiderable quantity of ſerous fluid is exhaled through the arterial orifices of the ſtomach, conſtituting part of the *ſuccus gaſtricus*, or ſtomach juice, to aſſiſt digeſtion. Any contamination of the blood will certainly change the fluid exhaling

The *cure* of nervous vomitings conſiſts in conveying the offending matter downward by gentle ſtomachic bitter laxatives, by antiſpaſmodics; and afterwards to give tone and vigor to the relaxed ſtomach, by bracing remedies; as vinum chalybeatum, with ſimple cinnamon water, ſweet elixir of vitriol, Hoffman's anodyne liquor, infuſions or decoctions of bark, chalybeate waters, &c.

The *Hampſtead* water is excellent for this purpoſe.

If from acidity, by abſorbents, lime water, magneſia, ginger, and rhubarb; if from alcaline matter, by acids of the vitriolic kind and ſtomachics, Mynſicht's elixir of vitriol, &c.

To palliate, æther, naphtha of nitre, ſpirits of lavender, oil of mint or cinnamon on ſugar, ſaline draughts, or the volatile ſaline draught made in the following manner:

No. 78. ℞. Sal. ammoniac. vol. ℈ſs.
Succ. limon. q. s. ad ſaturationem, deinde adde aq. cinnam. ſimp. ℥j.
Confect. cardiac. ℈j. f. hauſtus, bis vel ter in die ſumendus.

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haling in the ſtomach; and this will effect digeſtion, chylification, nutrition, &c. The blood, more or leſs prone to a lax ſtate, may pour out liquids in the ſtomach capable of producing putrid eructations, &c. &c.

Or the following mixture may be given:

No. 79. ℞. Sal. volat. c. c. ʒſs.
Succ. limon. q. s. ad ſaturationem, deinde adde
Aq. cinnam. ſimp. vel flor. aurant.
—— ——— pur. aa. ʒijſs.
Tinct. rhei ſpirit. ʒj. M. f. miſtura, cujus capiat coch. j. vel ij. ter vel quater in die.

No. 80. ℞. Sal. c. c. gr. v.
Aq. aneth. vel menth. vulg. ſimp. ʒiſs.
Confect. cardiac. ℈j. f. hauſtus ter in die ſumendus.
Vel, bibat ægrè ante prandium & cœnam ʒij. tincturæ rhei ſpt. cum cochl. ij. aquæ pur.

In every ſpecies of vomiting, *coſtiveneſs* ſhould be carefully prevented or removed, that the inverted periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines may be directed to take its natural courſe, in propelling the contained matter or ſubſtances through the inteſtines; this is effected by clyſters, &c.

When the vomiting is cauſed by diſeaſed viſcera in general, or the womb and its appendages in particular, it muſt be removed by applying remedies to the primary cauſes *.

In

* Anatomical diſſections after death.

Raro occurrit ſtomachi mala conformatio, ſed nonnunquam mole portentoſum; e ſede ſua depellitur, tum e propriâ herniâ, tum

In few caſes, however, are *vomits* neceſſary to nervous hyſteric patients, unleſs the matter already in the ſtomach cannot be propelled through the inteſtines; or if any poiſonous ſubſtance ſhould have been ſwallowed, as opium, hemlock, preparations of lead, &c.

If the viſcera be chronically diſeaſed, all vomits are contra-indicated; for no one can foreſee their dangerous conſequences: in acute diſorders of the ſtomach and inteſtines they may be occaſionally neceſſary; but ſhould

tum a herniâ epiploica, ſcirrhoſus in multis invenitur ventriculus. Pylorus huic vitio magis obnoxius eſt, in nonnullis cartilagineus, oſſeus, contractus, obſtructus fuit a nummo, aliove corpore extraneo; ventriculus puſtulis, tumoribus obſitus, phlogoſi, purulentia, exulceratione & gangrena tactus, dilaceratus.

Hepar inter cetera viſcera abdominalia frequentius fœdatur, inflammatum, purulentum, ſcirrhoſum, ſteatomatoſum, gangrenoſum, ſtomacho accretum, aridum, durum, & quaſi elixatum.

In veſicula fellea concretiones; & copia magna bilis; inſertio inſolita ductus communis.

Inteſtina valde diſtenta, & alibi quaſi filo conſtricta: extra abdomen una cum epiploo depulſa; putrida, accreta, intus ſuſcepta, vermibus plena, obſtructa, diſrupta, gangrenoſa.

Lien, pancreas, meſenterium, omentum, varie læſa, calculi renum.

Tumores ſtomachum & inteſtina comprimentes.

Cartilaginis xiphoidis prolapſus.

ſhould never be preſcribed without the utmoſt caution.

As palliatives, in nervous naufea and vomitings, aſafœtida, ſagapenum, opopanax, caſtor, myrrh, ſaffron, and ſimilar medicines, have their advantages, and may ſafely be preſcribed, while the deeper and more important cauſe-removing preparations are taken.

Bile in the Stomach.

There are two ſpecies; the one yellow, bitter, and very irritating; the other lived and blackiſh, and in a great meaſure inert, until it has obtained a diſpoſition to putrefaction.

Theſe ſpecies are forced up from the firſt inteſtine by the inverted periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines.

When in the ſtomach, the former ſpecies occaſions great ſickneſs, and, by conſent of parts, ſevere headach.

The cure and prevention have already been explained; which conſiſt in conveying the offending matter through the inteſtines by

mild ſtomachic laxatives, and by ſupplying the defective inert qualities of the bile with ſoap and aloetics, rhubarb, infuſions of ſena, cremor. tartar. or ſal diureticus. Coſtiveneſs ſhould be prevented with great care.

Wind in the Stomach and ſmall Inteſtines.

It is known to be in the ſtomach by a tumor, diſtenſion, hiccups; in the ſmall inteſtines, by being ſeated moſtly in the centre of the abdomen, and a particular hardneſs or tenſion.

Its emiſſion from the ſtomach is called eructation; this is promoted by carminatives with tinct. rhei, &c. Theſe warm remedies gently ſtimulate the coats of the ſtomach, to a due contraction; by which the exit of wind is procured upwards.

When wind is ſeated in the ſmall inteſtines, it is to be corrected or promoted downwards. This is to be effected by warm carminative ſtimulants, with aſafœtida, bitter ſtomachic laxatives, as infuſions of ſena, chamomile, &c.; or carminative clyſters, &c. See wind in the ſtomach.

Wind

Wind in the large Inteſtines,

Is known by the diſtenſion and pains being more in the circumference of the abdomen; to be ſimilarly treated, as the former.

Wind and hardened feces are eaſier evacuated from the large than the ſmall inteſtines; in this caſe emollient clyſters do great ſervice in a ſhort time.

Coſtiveneſs.

Coſtiveneſs is a too long retention of feces in the inteſtines.

The *cauſes* are multiplex, which ſhould be conſidered before the removal can be effected.

1. *Tumors*, or diſeaſes of the viſcera, particularly indurated meſenteric glands, by compreſſing the inteſtinal canal, retard the free paſſage of the feces.

This is frequently incurable; but the moſt probable means of cure are by mineral alteratives, calomel in ſmall doſes, and bitter cathartics.

2. *Ob-*

2. *Obſtructed biliary ducts*, which are beſt opened by calomel, aloetics, ſal diureticus, ſoap, and oleagenous cathartics, or the *oleum ricini*; almond oil, manna, and tincture of ſena, &c. emollient clyſters, &c.

3. If from a ſpaſm in the *ductus communis cholidochus*, by an over-diſtenſion of the duodenum; by the foregoing means, and antiſpaſmodics.

4. *Debility* in the moving or muſcular powers of the inteſtines, is a cauſe of coſtiveneſs; laxatives gently ſtimulant ſhould be conſtantly ordered, and at intervals ſtomachic bracers, electuarium lenitivum, with ginger, *electuarium* e ſcammonio, aloetic pills, &c., ſhould be daily uſed until the cauſe be removed.

5. *Dryneſs* of the inteſtines, from obſtructed exhaling arteries, or abſence of pancreatic juice; known by dry hardened lumpiſh feces; is beſt removed by caſtor oil, mutton and veal broths, oleagenous cathartics, and vegetables boiled.

6. *Inſpiſſated mucus*, covering the internal ſurface of the inteſtinal canal, ſo diminiſhes irritability, as to require alcaline ſalts, ſoap,

ſal

ſal ſodæ or *borax*; theſe latter, in very ſmall doſes, with bitter laxatives; as infuſions of ſena, with camomile and carminative ſeeds of aniſe, caraway, &c., to extricate the adhering matter. The alcaline remedies are to be uſed with caution, in ſmall doſes and well diluted; leſt they abrade the *villous* inteſtinal coat. They are contra-indicated, whenever the patient has formerly laboured under diarrhœa, hæmorrhoids, or bleeding piles, &c.

7. *Paralyſis* of the inteſtines rarely happens, except by preparations of lead, or *lead* in *wines*; which, by ſlow degrees, though ſmall in quantity, prove fatal. The remedies are oil and volatiles, cordials, ſtomachics, and irritating clyſters; ſtomach purges, and afterwards invigorating tonics.

8. The tumors and other affections of the womb; the ſtone or gravel frequently cauſe obſtinate conſtipation: remedies ſhould be directed to remove theſe complaints, in conjunction with mild eccoprotics and emollient cathartic clyſters, daily repeated.

9. *Coſtiveneſs* ariſing from a ſedentary life, and much contemplation, as amongſt the ſtudious and literary, ſhould be removed by exerciſe

exerciſe of body and relaxation of mind. Many other cauſes might be aſſigned as productive of conſtipation; but theſe are ſufficient for the preſent purpoſe.

All aſtringent diet and acid auſtere wines are to be avoided: roaſted apples, prunes, or French plumbs, accelerate the deſcent of the feces.

Glauber and *Rochelle* ſalts, the ſal *polychreſt*, *tartarum ſolubile*, and ſuch ſaline purgatives, are more effectual than any of the foregoing laxatives; but they ſeldom agree with the ſtomachs of the nervous, old, gouty, or debilitated: in ſome inſtances, however, their aſſiſtance muſt be ſolicited. *

Bilious

* Diſſections after death.

Inteſtina repleta, fæcibus induratis, materiaque quadam mucida, intricata, ultra modum diſtenta flatibus, concreta, obſtructa, lapides continentia.

Colon et craſſiora inteſtina fæcibus duris & quaſi lapideſcentibus obſtructa.

Repertum fuit colon nucleis ceraſorum, & perſicorum ad trium librarum pondus infarctum, dilatatum ventriculi inſtar & in fine ampliationis coarctatum, ac annulo carnoſo ſphincteris ad inſtar conſtrictum.

In illo inventæ fuerunt ſarcoſes ingentis molis: occaleſcentiæ tumores, tubi coalitus ab exulcerati lateris contactu.

Viſa

Bilious Excrements.

An overabundance of bile ſecreted in the liver, and poured into the *duodenum*, will irritate the inteſtines, occaſion great pain and bilious purgings.

Theſe evacuations are not be *checked* by *aſtringents*, but gently promoted by rhubarb and cremor tartar, decoctions of tamarinds and ſena: theſe acid and ſtomachic purgatives correct the bile, and facilitate its evacuation with little pain.

When the bile is thoroughly evacuated, gentle *tonics* are proper; but great caution ſhould always be obſerved, never to cloſe the bile duct opening in the *duodenum* by aſtrin-

Viſa organa hæc putrida gangrænoſa vel dilacerata, a ſtagnatione collectarum materiarum.

Sæpe ventriculus & inteſtina a ſitu dimota, ſcirrhoſa.

Hepar ſcirrhoſum, veſicula fellis nunc inanis, nunc turgida vel lapideis concretionibus fœta.

Pancreas induratum, ingens; lien magnus, pendulus; omentum craſſum, putridum, inteſtinis accretum.

Paſſim tumores e ventriculo, meſenterio, utero, vagina, aliiſque partibus exſurgentes, comprimunt tubum inteſtinalem.

Læſiones cerebri & medullæ ſpinalis ſæpe inteſtinorum paralyſin poſt ſe trahunt.

gents; for inflammations and ſcirrhoſities of the liver have been the conſequence. I have ſeen *bark* and *elixir of vitriol* produce theſe effects, the war before laſt, at the Havannah in 1762, and other Weſt India iſlands. Theſe affections of the liver are cured by antimonials and mercurials given as alteratives.

The bile may be forced into the inteſtine by an over-diſtenſion of the ſtomach, either from wind, or too great a quantity of food: this latter proves ſalutary, for it promotes a temporary purging, and removes the effects of over-repletion.

When the bile is increaſed by paſſions of the mind, which is no unuſual concomitant of anger, or violence of temper, ſerenity of mind muſt be earneſtly recommended. Perſons who poſſeſs the beſt and moſt *noble* ſentiments are often too irritable, they expect more *integrity* than the world poſſeſſes: but if their perturbations of mind ariſe from human villany, vices, or errors, no reformation will be produced by rage or angry paſſions. Thoſe who are capable of infamy, ſeldom bluſh at the recital of it: the benevolent and

worthy,

worthy, however, do not owe the deſtruction of their own health, when it can anſwer no important purpoſe; it is too precious a ſacrifice. Foreſight to prevent, or calmneſs and acquieſcence under temporary misfortunes, ſhould be ſtrongly inculcated to the nervous.

Black Excrement, or Feces.

Theſe appear to originate in an ill-ſecreted bile, or its too long retenſion either in the gall bladder, or duodenum.

It is inactive to a certain degree, and by not ſtimulating the inteſtines from its deſtitution of purgative qualities, coſtiveneſs is produced; its long retention is followed by a tendency to putrefaction; for the *fixed air*, or aëreous acid being extricated, flatulency is the conſequence.

The deſcent of this black bile ſhould be promoted by *tinctura ſacra* and *cremor tartar*, or any acid laxatives; its ſtagnation in the inteſtines ſhould always be prevented, as it may aſſiſt in producing a vitiated chyle, and a bad habit of body.

Oranges,

Oranges, the ſummer acid fruits, or roaſted apples are proper, if they agree well with the ſtomach; theſe check the putrid tendency of the vitiated bile in the inteſtinal tube, and prove gently laxative.

When the cauſe is in the liver, mineral alteratives are the moſt proper medicines to remove obſtruction, or ſcirrhus.

Blackiſh ſtools may likewiſe ariſe from effuſions of blood in the ſtomach, or inteſtinal canal, from the exhalent arteries; or from chalybeate medicines: theſe circumſtances therefore ſhould be well aſcertained before medicines are preſcribed.

Pale-coloured argillaceous Excerements.

This is a common ſymptom of the *icterus*, or jaundice, and happens from the want of bile in the inteſtinal tube.

The *cauſes* are,

1. An obſtruction in the biliary ducts.

2. A diſeaſe in the liver, by which the bile is not properly ſecreted.

3. The bile is conveyed into the blood inſtead of the gall bladder or inteſtines, cauſing

cauſing a yellow diffuſion in every part of the body.

Gall Stones obſtructing the biliary ducts, are commonly known by exquiſite pain in the part, argillaceous or clayiſh feces, vomitings, &c. This is to be treated by veneſection; oleagenous purgatives, and manna, emollient clyſters, warm baths, &c.

If the cauſe ſhould exiſt in a diſeaſed liver, productive of the jaundice; aloetics, and calomel in ſmall doſes; ſal diureticus, and the bitter infuſion, frequently cure the complaint.

Saponaceous remedies and rhubarb, are leſs efficacious than the antecedent.

A mineral alterative courſe afterwards, will often prevent the return of the diſeaſe, as it is moſt likely to remove gradually obſtructions in the liver, or ducts, without irritation.

Acids are recommended both by practitioners and authors in the jaundice; but very erroneouſly.

The *bile* is diffuſed through the whole habit; acids, as generally preſcribed, cannot follow it; for they are neither received by the lymphatic

lymphatic ſyſtem, nor inhalent veins, unleſs exceedingly diluted; conſequently cannot counteract by neutraliſation, or ſolution in the whole body, the alcaleſcent quality of the yellow-coloured fluid; but when the bile is in the inteſtines, acids and acid laxatives are very beneficial; becauſe they more probably come in contact, and correct, or expel the offending matter.

Boerhaave, and Van Swieten, recommended the *vernal herbage*. Stony concretions in oxen, are removed by the ſpring graſs, eſpecially thoſe who have lived upon hay, &c. in the winter: Upon this principle, the *ſuccus graminis* is preſcribed as a powerful detergent and deobſtruent.

Purgings.

Purging is a too frequent, or inordinate evacuation of feces, or excrements.

The *cauſe* is a ſtimulating matter, or too great irritability of the inteſtines, by which frequent contractions of the fibres are excited; thus all the ſecretions are more abundantly produced, and by the increaſed periſtaltic motion,

tion, the contents are quickly evacuated in a liquid ſtate, the thinner parts not having time to be taken up by the abſorbent veſſels.

The ſubſtances capable of ſtimulating the inteſtines, from the materia medica, are cathartics, and other acrids; various ſorts of foods, particularly of the vegetable and fruit kind; ſome meats, as pork and pig; ſudden cold, ſuppreſſed perſpiration; but ſome of theſe being accidental, and others peculiar to individuals, little is to be preſcribed by medicine, except abſtinence from whatever has produced the effect. In the *hypercatharſis*, diluents, emollients, cardiacs, anodynes are indicated.

Purging ſhould never be *haſtily* checked, and particularly if attended with pain; the cauſe ſhould always be removed by gentle laxatives of rhubarb, ſaline purgatives, and manna, oil, &c. before either aſtringents, or opiates are adminiſtered.

The ſmall doſes of *ipecacuanha* recommended for purgings, are very unpleaſant, and rarely neceſſary; to occaſion a continual nauſea, when milder methods preſent themſelves,

ſelves, is a more violent practice than nervous purgings in particular require.

Pain, though a great enemy to human tranquillity, is a favorable ſymptom in purgings; its ſuppreſſion ſhould very cautiouſly be attempted by opium; for mortifications of the inteſtines have been the conſequence: therefore griping pains ſhould, in general, be borne patiently until the irritating cauſe be removed. I have known many inſtances, where the injudicious uſe of *opium* and warm cordials, formerly recommended by Sir *John Pringle* and others, has proved inconteſtibly *fatal*; particularly in the diarrhœa of armies, hoſpitals, and hot climates.

Bile, or any other ſtimulating matter exciting frequent ſtools, muſt be evacuated or corrected. A ſmall quality of *vitiated matter* can alter and change a conſiderable maſs, and ſoon contaminate the whole body; and examples of which is evident from the admiſſion of any putrid matter in diſſection, by a ſlight ſcratch, &c.

The purgings of nervous people, however, are more commonly owing to laxity and ſenſibility

ſibility of the inteſtinal canal, than to any violent irritating matter, bile excepted.

If the purging ariſe from debility of the ſtomach or inteſtines, after a doſe or two of rhubarb; tonics of the *gentle* aſtringent kind are uſeful; the julep. e creta, Hoffman's anodyne liquor; the pulvis terræ japonicæ; the *extractum ligni campechenſis* diſſolved in aq. cinnam. ſimp. Confectio cardiaca, or in nervous pains the confectio Damocratis may be adminiſtered.

Antiſpaſmodics often remove the cholicky purgings of the nervous claſs by allaying irritability; and theſe remedies ſhould always be preferred to opiates, as aſafœtida, camphor, and ſal c. c. in mixtures, &c.

Nervous Tabes, or waſting of the Body.

The *cauſes* of conſumption are various; as ulcerated lungs, and it is then called *phthiſis pulmonalis*; chronic diſorders of the viſcera, or debility of the organs of digeſtion and nutrition; great evacuations from hæmorrhages; fluor albus, obſtructed or profuſe menſes, increaſed ſaliva, or too copious perſpiration,

lactation, diabetes, diarrhœa, dyſentery, lientery, obſtructed meſenteric glands, ſcrophula, &c.

All theſe *cauſes* require a different mode of treatment according to indications, violence, or acuteneſs of the complaint, fever or other circumſtances.

A *nervous tabes* is a waſting of the body without any remarkable fever, cough, or difficult reſpiration; it is accompanied with inappetency, depraved digeſtion, and want of proper nutrition.

The *primary cauſes* of the nervous atrophy, are violent paſſions of the mind, love, grief, &c.; frequent drinking of ardent ſpirituous liquors, or unwholſome air.

The *cure* conſiſts in calming mental violence; the avoiding cordials, or ſpirituous liquors; the removal from inſalubrious to a purer and more elaſtic air, and the adminiſtering remedies adapted to the particular or occaſional cauſes.

If from debility or a depraved ſtomach, gentle ſtomachic evacuants, tonics and bitters are proper.

If from obſtructed meſenteric glands, or diſeaſed viſcera, mineral alteratives.

If worms be the cauſe, they muſt be evacuated by anthelmintics, mercurials, purges, &c.

Nervous cholic.

Griping pains in the inteſtines of nervous patients, flying from one part to another without either purging or vomiting, is called the nervous cholic.

The *cauſe* is moſt probably fixed air, or the *aërial acid*, or inflammable air, retained in the inteſtines, vellicating, or ſtimulating the nervous ſyſtem, expanded all over their internal ſurface.

The *cure* is ſimilar to that already recommended for wind in the ſtomach, or inteſtines. Stomachic laxatives, carminatives, antiſpaſmodics, and lime water, oleum aniſi, carui, cinnamomi, warm carminative fetid clyſters, and ſometimes, a light opiate may be uſeful.

Worms.

Worms of different ſpecies have been found in the ſtomach, or inteſtines of perſons of every age; but from conſtipation, are very common to the nervous and hyſteric.

They are diſtinguiſhed into the *lumbrici* or *teretes*, like earth worms; *tænia*, ſimilar to tape; *cucurbitini*, like gourd ſeed; and *aſcarides*, a very minute ſpecies like maggots, not thicker than a ſmall pin.

They are generated either by different foods, or deſcend with vegetables, cheeſe, farinaceous, or leguminous foods.

The *lumbrici* and *tænia* are commonly in the ſtomach and ſmaller inteſtines; the *aſcarides* in the larger inteſtines, and particularly in the rectum, occaſioning itching and irritation.

Tape worms have been found many *yards* long; and it is eaſy to conceive what injury they muſt occaſion to the patient, by ſucking a large quantity of nutriment for their ſupport.

Innumerable ſymptoms accompany worms; as pallor of the face, eyes ſunk in the orbits with

with a livid hue underneath; gnaſhing of the teeth, fetor in the breath, voraciouſneſs, wind, indigeſtion, pricking ſenſations, uneaſineſs in the ſtomach and inteſtines, hard ſwelled belly, hiccups, dry cough, ſtarting in ſleep, convulſive and other fits; frequent itching and picking the noſe; abſceſſes and a vomiting, or purging of ſlimy purulent pus; anxiety, feveriſh heats and fluſhings, faintings; the voiding worms by the mouth or *anus*; but nothing ſo obviouſly determines their probable preſence in the inteſtines, as when ſome have been perceived from the ſtomach, or evacuated in the excrements; all other ſymptoms are *equivocal*, or *doubtful*. Many verminous ſymptoms are common to the *hydrocephalus internus*, or watery head of children, the diagnoſtic ſign, however, of which, is a dilatation of the pupils.

It is aſtoniſhing how firmly worms adhere to the coats of the ſtomach, or inteſtines, much like leeches; from whence they draw their nouriſhment by continual ſuction; which in the larger worms, when in great quantity, muſt prove a conſiderable loſs to the human

human body, by defeating the nutrition of the body, cauſing great waſte, languor, worm fevers, and many other bad conſequences; often occaſioning violent cutting, piercing pains, and conſumption of fleſh.

The ſmaller worms are, perhaps, oviparous, the *lumbrici* are certainly viviparous; I have in my poſſeſſion ſpecies of theſe large worms, which were diſcharged at the time they were caſting forth a young brood. Worms frequently perforate the coats of the inteſtines.

The cure conſiſts in diſlodging the worms from their holds on the villous coat of the inteſtines.

It is evident that the excrements paſs through the inteſtines without the excluſion of worms; and it frequently happens, that the moſt approved purges are ineffectual: cathartics are, however, proper, after remedies which act on the villous coat, remedies which are particularly offenſive to the worms, as aſafœtida, whoſe ſmell is ſaid to force the worms from their faſtening, mercurial and martial preparations, cort. peruv.,

peruv., and oblige the worms to looſe their hold.

To cleanſe the internal ſurface of the inteſtines, and diſlodge worms from their adherence, ſolutions of alcaline ſalts, as the *ſal ſodæ*, *ſal tartar*. *ſal abſinth*. cremor tartar. &c. are proper; or borax with bitter infuſions; ſoap, aloetics and Indian pink. The alcaline ſalts ſhould not be uſed *ſtronger* than to excite a *pungency* on the tongue, leſt they *abrade*, and too much *deſtroy* the inteſtinal mucus. The *pulvis ſabinæ* externally deſtroys warts, and internally is a powerful detergent and diſlodger of worms; the *ſem. ſantonic*. &c. During the adminiſtration of ſuch remedies cathartics of aloes and cremor tartar; calomel at night, and any approved purge the next morning; jalap and cremor tartar. are as effectual as any; or the *pulvis e ſena comp*. with *ſem. ſantonic*. or with *pulvis ſabinæ*, *vin. aloeticum alcalinum*, &c. mercurials and aloetics; or the juice of freſh ſquills, ſo diluted as not to excite vomiting, has an irritating detergent quality in diſlodging and evacuating worms. Garlic cut ſmall, and given in milk or juice of rue, are excellent and ſafe vermifuges, particularly

ticularly for children. The *ſuccus graminis* has, often, the power of diſlodging worms.

When worms are in the rectum, aloetic clyſters are excellent, which may be made by aloes boiled in milk, &c. or with tinctura ſacra and *decoctum commun.* pro *clyſtere*, ſalt, &c. Oily remedies continued, or the *oleum ricini*, fetid gums, ſulphureous waters, æthiops mineral, and cinnabarine preparations, and even the bark, frequently diſlodge and evacuate worms.

The ſolution of mercurius corroſivus ſublimatus has cauſed the expulſion of worms, and mercurial preparations are likewiſe recommended; the former, unleſs much diluted, is a rough medicine, and the latter contains frequently *acrid* particles. The *mercurius ſaccharatus* of the Edinburgh diſpenſatory is ſafer; and, as an evacuant, the vermifuge troches are very effectual, when milder methods do not ſucceed.

Mercurius ſaccharatus Eding.

No. 81. ℞ Hydrargyri
Sacchar. candi rubr. a. ʒſs.
Ol. ſtill. juniper. gut. xvj.
Tere ſimul in mortario vitreo donec penitus evaneſcant globuli.

Tro-

Trochiſci vermifugi.

No. 82. ℞. Calomel opt. lævigati
Pulv. ſcammon. a. ʒij.
Sacchar. alb. ℥ij.
Bene triturentur & cum ſolutione gum. arabici in aq. roſarum fiant trochiſci ℈j. pond.

No. 83. ℞. Calomel. limatur. mart. and cort. peruv. pulv. with honey, made into an electuary, is a very powerful anthelmintic.
The decoctum mercuriale is much recommended by ſome.

In the flat kind of worm.

No. 84. ℞. Stanni pulv.
Corall. rub. ppt. aa. ʒj.
Syr. ſimp. q. s. f. bolus bis in die ſumend. cum ʒiſs. infuſ. amar.

No. 85. ℞. Aſafœtid. ʒſs.
Mercur. dulc. ℈ſs.
Extr. rhei ℈ij.
M. f. pill. No. xxx. quarum ſumat j. mane & nocte.

There were given daily ſeveral ſpoonfuls of honey under the courſe of this medicine, according to Redi and Le Clerc's obſervations, which had a very good effect.

All ſteel preparations are very uſeful.

Some years ago there was at Paris, and all over France, an *arcanum* in the higheſt eſteem, and recommended as infallible in the cure of the tape worm; the inventor, Herrenſchwand, kept it many years as the greateſt ſecret,

cret, and it ſold well as long as it was in his poſſeſſion. The great fame it acquired, encouraged ſeveral gentlemen of the faculty to diſcover the contents, but without ſucceſs; till at laſt Dr. Herrenſchwand was pleaſed to preſent the genuine compoſition to a particular friend, with leave to make it public, which is here given with pleaſure, as an excellent medicine to diſlodge worms.

No. 86. ℞. Gum. gutt. Gamb. gr. iij. ad vj.
Sal abſinth.
Carbon. fraxini aa. gr. xv. ad xxv. f. pulvis mane & veſperi ſumendus in cochl. ij. aquæ *.

Hæmorrhoids or Piles.

Is a varicoſe tumor and painful ſenſation in the rectum, or its external orifice, particularly in voiding the excrements.

The cauſes are: 1. Varices or dilatations of the hæmorrhoidal veins; blood is brought by

* A boy ſubject to worms, evacuated 28 of the *lumbrici* by taking *æthiops mineral* ʒſs. *ſal ſodæ* gr. vi. and ϑj *pulv. e tragacanth. c.* bis de die; and every third day ϑj *pulv. e ſen. c.* with gr. ij. calomel. The ſame boy ſwallowed a halfpenny afterward, and the mother applied to Mr. *Davidſon*, Queen Ann-ſtreet. The halfpenny was 18 days in paſſing, and forced before it 33 worms, each nearly a foot long. The boy is now in perfect health.

by the arteries, but obſtructed, and ſtagnated in the venal ſyſtem.

2. An abraſion of the mucus in the rectum; or,

3. Excoriations in and about its external orifice, from acrimony, acrid cathartics, aloes, &c.

4. Compreſſions on the *iliac* veins, from pregnancy, tumors, &c.

Piles are either ſanguineous, bleeding; or blind, as they are called, in which no blood iſſues.

A *prolapſus ani*, or falling down and elongation of the rectum, and excreſcences about the anus, are often miſtaken for the piles by the females; it is neceſſary, therefore, that the phyſician ſhould be certain of the caſe before he preſcribes; or all efforts of cure may prove fruitleſs.

Perſons once having piles, without great attention in avoiding conſtipation, and coldneſs in the feet, or other occaſional cauſes, frequently are troubled with returns.

The *cure* muſt be accommodated to the ſpecies of the diſeaſe.

The veſſels being turgid, and the parts inflamed, are relieved by bleeding in the arm, feet,

feet, or hæmorrhoidal veins, or by leeches repeatedly applied, until the inflammatory ſymptoms are removed by antiphlogiſtic and very abſtemious diet.

Sitting over, or in, tepid baths of flores ſambuci and warm water, or any emollient ſoft fomentations of mucilages, milk, &c. aſſiſt in removing venal obſtruction, or retardation; emollient cataplaſms of farin. ſemin. lini, with or without aqua vegeto-mineralis, are very uſeful.

Coſtiveneſs muſt in every ſpecies be prevented by electuarium lenitivum, and oleum amygdalinum, by æthiops, lac ſulphuris, magneſia, manna, ſtewed prunes, French plums, *electuarium e caſſia*, or ſuch mild eccoprotics; avoiding red wines and aſtringents.

Pediluvia of warm water and common ſalt, as they promote a freer circulation in the extremities, contribute to remove the piles, which are known frequently to ariſe from cold in the legs and feet. When the violence of the inflammation is reſolved to a certain degree, the *aqua vegeto-mineralis* joined with camphor, is an excellent preparation to aſſiſt the

the contraction of the veſſels, and allay irritation. Vitriolic lotions are preſcribed for the ſame purpoſe. An abſtinence from all liquid food is particularly uſeful in preventing and removing the turgency of the veſſels.

The excoriations about the rectum are removed by ſoft unguents, mucilaginous and oleaginous applications, preventing the contact and friction, as much as poſſible, of the paſſing excrements.

A liniment compoſed of litharge ʒj. well levigated, acet. com. ʒij. and ol. amygdal. dulc. ʒxiv. is excellent after the inflammation. The *aqua vegeto-mineralis* may be preſcribed as a deſiccative.

The *ſanguineous* or *bleeding piles* have been conſidered ſalutary in all ages, and perhaps, if moderate, this may be true; but they are certainly diſagreeable; and, contrary to received opinions, I have known theſe hæmorrhages, when *profuſe*, lay the foundation of dropſy and other grievous diſorders.

The bleeding piles are commonly owing to plenitude of the hæmorrhoidal veſſels from obſtructed menſes, or other ſuppreſſed excretions, and hard, retained excrements; there-

fore

fore a cool, moderate regimen, the promoting the ſuppreſſed excretion, whether by ſtool, urine, or perſpiration, dry diet, and the removal of conſtipation, are the principal remedies.

If the hæmorrhage originate in relaxation, which moſt frequently happens to the nervous, tonics will be beneficial; at the ſame time coſtiveneſs muſt be prevented by the mildeſt methods, as rhub. and magneſ.

The treatment of the hæmorrhoids or piles ariſing from compreſſion of the iliac veins during pregnancy, ſhould be ſimilar.

All *aloetics* and *ſtimulating purges* muſt be avoided; for by irritation they increaſe the pain and inflammation; occaſion teneſmus, or a conſtant and fruitleſs deſire to evacuate the excrements.

Prolapſus Ani,

Is the falling down, or protruſion of the rectum externally, particularly in voiding alvine excrements.

Cauſes are, hardened excrements, or conſtipation, a conſumption or depravation of the *adeps* ſurrounding the anus, and a relaxation of

of the elevator muſcles, ſometimes conjointly with the ſphincter ani.

It is moſt commonly an attendant on relaxed habits, and the nervous; or may ariſe from hæmorrhoids, teneſmus, calculi, ulcers of the bladder, womb, &c. This diſorder is very difficult to remove, and frequently incurable.

The *cure* depends on circumſtances.

If the anus has deſcended and cannot be returned, from ſwelling or inflammation, and ſtricture, emollient fomentations, and ſitting over warm water, ſhould be uſed. Leeches may be applied, or ſometimes it is neceſſary to extract blood by the puncture of a lancet externally, to evacuate the contents of the tumor. Afterward, by the gentle preſſure of the fingers on each ſide of the tumor, the rectum aſcends, and ſhould be retained by a new invented compreſſing bandage.

The aqua vegeto-mineralis, or weak ſolutions of white vitriol, cold bathing the part in a *bidée*, may then be uſed to prevent a future *prolapſus*.

Coſtiveneſs, in all inſtances, ſhould be prevented by emollient laxatives; the diet ſhould be light and nutritious.

The

The tumor of the anus is ſometimes very conſiderable; becauſe the arteries continually force blood to the part; but from the contraction of the *ſphincter ani*, the veins cannot carry it back; the neck of the tumor is ſurrounded as with a ligature, and the returning veins are intercepted and ſtrangulated.

Gangrene and *mortification* have ſometimes been the conſequence; therefore, to prevent theſe direful effects, the tumor, when violently inflamed, muſt be ſcarified as much externally as poſſible, the blood evacuated, and the veſſels liberated from the threatening danger. This treatment is moſt neceſſary, when the diſorder is recent, and the inflammation runs high.

Emptying the veſſels of the lower extremities by venæſection in the feet, and bark, ought not to be ſpared, to prevent gangrene: it is better by a judicious foreſight to avert misfortune, than to wait until it has happened, and becomes irremedial.

The *prolapſus ani*, which has been of long continuance, and owing to the repeated relaxation of the part, or from fiſtula, piles, &c. is ſeldom cured.

Patients

Patients are in the practice of returning the tumor themſelves after every evacuation of excrement: If, however, the rectum always deſcends when the body is in an erect poſture, it ſhould be prevented by a bandage, and compreſs made of ſoft linen ſtuffed with wool, or by the new-invented ſpring-truſs.

The weight of all the inteſtines, fat of the omentum, and near the kidneys; the tenderneſs of a relaxed, weak tela celluloſa; the communication of its cells, which receives the gravitating humors from all the *ſuperior* parts; which by ſtagnation or diſtenſion in the *lower*, weaken the elater of the fibres in and about the anus; all account for the pain and obſtinacy of the diſorder.

The difficulty of curing the *prolapſus ani* is very obvious: the part is daily in *action*, the very cauſe, therefore, of the protruſion of the inteſtine conſtantly remains: check the ſtools, their hardneſs then will be a ſufficient cauſe; give laxatives conſtantly, and the repeated action of expelling the feces confirms the complaint, or produces a teneſmus, or ſtraining by the abraſion of the mucus, or from

the acrid diſcharge which iſſues inſtead of mucus.

The cure, though difficult, has been in many inſtances effected, or the diſorder has been much mitigated, by the following or ſuch like remedies, conjointly with a moderately dry nutritious diet, cold bathing the part frequently in the *bidée*, and by aſtringent lotions applied to the part.

No. 87. ℞. Elect. lenitiv. ʒij.
Æthiop. min. ʒvj.
Pulv. crem. tart. ʒij.
Syr. ſimp. q. s. f. electuarium de quo capiat Q. N. M. mane & nocte ad aſtrictionem alvi præveniendam.

℞. Tinct. cort. peruv. Huxham ʒij.
Decoct. ejuſdem ʒx.
Elix. vitriol. acid. gutt. xv. f. hauſtus, horis duabus ante prandium & cœnam ſumendus.

Opiates are contra-indicated; becauſe they retard the deſcent of the feces, and create coſtiveneſs; but in great pain and abſence of reſt, a few drops of laudanum in an oleous draught may be proper.

Preventing conſtipation, and bracing the relaxed ſtomach and inteſtines, are the moſt rational methods of cure; but there are ſometim

times *contra-indications*, eaſily perceived by an experienced phyſician, that will effectually forbid, or abridge our expectations, from theſe ſources of ſalutiferous practice.

The *prolapſus* originating in the conſumption, diminution, or depravation of the adipoſe ſubſtance ſurrounding the *inteſtinum rectum*, can only be cured by removing the cauſes; which are commonly great weakneſs from hectic or other diſeaſes; depraved digeſtion, chylification, ſanguification, and nutrition, œdema, anaſarca, diarrhœa, dyſentery, &c. &c., which are difficult.

In the fiſtula in ano, ulcers of the womb or bladder, ſtone, gravel, &c., the cauſes of the prolapſus from theſe ſources muſt be particularly attended to, and removed, or no cure need be expected.

Spaſmodic Stricture of the Bladder,

Is an involuntary contraction of the *ſphincter veſicæ* reſiſting the expulſatory power of the *muſculi detruſores urinæ*, and obſtructing the free evacuation of the urine *.

* Anatomical examinations after death.

Aperta cadavera ſubſtantiam viſcidam & mucoſam, lutum gypſeum, arenulas, calculos in veſica & uteribus exhibent; non

This ſymptom may ariſe in the early months of pregnancy from the compreſſion of the uterus; or from ſtone, gravel, ſcirrhus, and ulcers of the womb, diſeaſes of the rectum, a thickening of the neck of the bladder, diſeaſed kidneys and ureters, &c.; abſceſs, ulcer, or tumors, cantharides, &c.; therefore no inconſiderable attention is neceſſary, leſt the caſe be miſtaken and improperly treated *.

If the urine has been long retained in the bladder, it can be drawn off by the catheter †.

The

ſecus ac in renum pelvi, quæ etiam cruſta lapidea obducitur: ureteres obſtructi, calloſi, exſiccati. Renes inflammati, purulenti, putridi, lacerati, corrugati, depreſſi, aridi, tuberculoſi, compreſſi a tumoribus in partibus vicinis.—In veſica ſarcoſes, tumores ſcirrhoſi, cancroſi; vel veſica fuit contracta, calloſa, cartilaginea, lapidea, cruſta obducta; prolapſus uteri, vaginæ, recti. Veſicæ mala conformatio.

* Among the numerous poor who come for aſſiſtance on public days, I had a very remarkable inſtance of a young women ſent by Mr. *Hardie*, ſurgeon, in Weymouth-ſtreet, for advice. The urine had been totally ſuppreſſed 48 hours, occaſioning the moſt inexpreſſible pain. The cure was performed by a ſtrong ſolution of camphor with oil of almonds, nitre, and manna, in a few days.

Many other inſtances have occurred, in which ſimilar methods, ſometimes conjointly with opiates, have ſucceeded.

†. Mr. Samuel, apothecary in High-ſtreet, Marybone, had a caſe of a pregnant woman, who could not void a drop of urine:

I was

The *cure* is effected by removing the ſpaſm with antiſpaſmodics; camphor in large doſes, oleaginous laxatives, warm bathing, either general or partial, and in caſes of conſiderable pain, opiates may be added to the camphor. Medicated bougies to the urethra, and warm fomentations to the lower part of the abdomen, are frequently neceſſary.

Incontinentia urinæ, or *involuntary Emiſſion of Urine*.

This may ariſe from a variety of cauſes; but the relaxation of the ſphincter of the bladder is the principal cauſe in the nervous and debilitated.

As the complaint is cauſed by relaxation, corroborants of bark, ſteel, or vitriolic acids; cold bathing, and extremely *dry* nutritious diet, are the proper remedies.

This

I was conſulted, and diſcovered the cauſe to be owing to early pregnancy and a relaxation of the ligaments of the womb, by which the uterus, as it enlarged, preſſed on the neck of the bladder. The urine was obliged to be drawn off carefully with a catheter, which I performed repeatedly, and ordered bark and other tonics, which ſoon removed the cauſe. In the latter months of pregnancy this rarely happens, becauſe the uterus riſes.

This ſymptom may likewiſe ariſe from an increaſed action in the renal veſſels, by which an immoderate quantity of urine, *acrid* in quality, is poured forth into the weakened bladder unable to contain its contents: this happens from a ſuppreſſion of night ſweats in hectic complaints, and muſt be treated according to circumſtances.

If the involuntary diſcharge of urine be from a paralyſis of the muſcular coat of the bladder, it is rarely cured; but ſhould be attempted by tonics, volatiles, cold bath, electricity, and an extreme dry, nutritious, warm, invigorating diet.

Pains in the Uterus or Womb.

Many are the cauſes of pains in the uterus; which require penetration in the phyſician to diſcover; for they are frequently miſtaken for *cholics*, *gravel*, *ſtone*, &c., and of courſe treated very improperly.

Uterine pains are idiopathic or ſymptomatic, and may be owing to either diſeaſes of the adjacent parts, as the kidneys, ureters, bladder or rectum, or tumors in the

iliac

iliat lymphatic ſyſtem; or from uterine inflammation, tumor, ulcer, excoriation of the os uteri from a ſcratch, inverſion, moles, diſtenſions or collections of air, ſerum, blood, ſtony concretions, hernia, excreſcences, ſcirrhi, cancer, tumors of the ovaria, Fallopian tubes, &c. &c.

The pains of the uterus are ſituated very low in the pelvis, between the bladder and rectum, and always imitate more or leſs thoſe of labor, or difficulty in menſtruation: by the ſympathy of the nervous ſyſtem, however, they ſometimes extend their influence to the ſtomach, occaſioning nauſea, vomiting, &c.

Pains from Efforts to menſtruate.

Pains happening in the uterus, at, or near the monthly period, are owing to the *os tincæ* reſiſting the natural efforts of menſtruation. Theſe pains ſhould not be mitigated by opiates, unleſs very violent; becauſe by ſuch a practice the menſes may be retarded or retained: camphor, valerian, myrrh, the gum pill, the pulvis e myrrh. comp., pennyroyal, and warm drinks gently ſtimulating and cordial,

dial, but not acid or flatulent, ſhould be ordered.

Pediluvia, or feet baths, are proper to facilitate the menſtrual diſcharge, compoſed of tepid water and a little ſalt, at bed-time; and the feet and legs ſhould be covered warm, either with flannel or ſtockings, particularly in the colder ſeaſons. In coſtiveneſs the pilula Rufi is uſeful.

Pains from contractions of the Uterus to force off coagulated maſſes contained in the Uterus.

The pains from this cauſe are ſometimes almoſt equal to thoſe in child-bearing.

The *pulvis e myrrha compoſitus* and camphorated julep, ſpiritus nitri dulcis, or any other gently ſtimulating uterine remedy, and warm drinks, are proper to aſſiſt the expulſion of the offending cauſe.

If the pains be very violent, recourſe muſt be had to *opiates* joined with uterine remedies, if no *contra-indication* forbid their uſe.

Warm emollient injections to the vagina, and carminative clyſters, greatly contribute to alleviate the ſymptoms, and promote the ex-

pulſion of the coagula; but ſometimes they require an *obſtetric* extraction.

Various accumulations after death have been found in the uterus, which have weighed 100, or 80 pounds weight. I have one in my poſſeſſion filled with a ſolid maſs the colour of the brain, one ovarium extremely hard, the other filled with lymph. This extraordinary caſe will be publiſhed, with other curious diſſections*.

* *Anatomical Examinations after Death.*

A lochiorum ſuppreſſione, inflammatio, mors quinto die.

Uterus ingens ponderis 100 librarum qui aquæ ſubcruentæ octo & viginti pintas continebat, præter quatuor molas.

Uterus octoginta libras ponderans, ichore flavo, materia adipoſa & oleaginoſa infarctus.

Uterus fere univerſam abdominis cavitatem implens. Infarctus materia quadam rubicunda: ejus latera partim eroſa, adeo ut in pluribus locis ad chartæ tenuitatem diducta eſſent.

Fœmina in tertium menſem gravida *vapulata marito*, pedibuſque ad hypogaſtrium conculcata—Venter dein crevit inæqualiter. Inter difficillimum partum ſubita & enormi hæmorrhagia e medio tollitur.

Reperitur in ſubſtantia lateris dextri ſteatoma ingens, rotundum tredecim libras pendens.

Uterus ingens diverſibus materiebus farctus, carnoſis nempe excreſcentiis, membranis, tendinibus, oſſiculis, lapillis, & adeo ut pondus omnium ad quadraginta pondus accederet.

Procidentia,

Procidentia, Prolapſus Uteri, or *falling down of the Womb.*

The *prolapſus uteri* is the deſcent of the uterus lower than uſual into the vagina; particularly when the female is in an erect poſture.

The deſcenſion of the uterus frequently occaſions impediments in the evacuation of the urine and feces, from its preſſure on thoſe parts, eſpecially if the uterus be enlarged by tumor.

By conſent of parts it cauſes nauſea, faintneſs, and other ſymptoms of relaxation in walking or exerciſe.

The *cauſes* are ſometimes univerſal debility; but more commonly a relaxation and elongation of the ligaments of the uterus.

The *cure.* When the *prolapſus uteri* happens from relaxation, and elongation of its ligaments, tonics, as the bark, vitriolic preparations, chalybeates, a *dry* nouriſhing diet, and pure air, will be proper. Relaxing drinks, as tea, barley-water, broths, &c. muſt be abſtained from.

The

The cold bath, if no other diſeaſe of the viſcera forbid its uſe, will be proper; but it ſhould be *cautiouſly* preſcribed to females; for I have known inſtances of cold bathing inconteſtibly producing that moſt calamitous of all diſeaſes, the ſcirrhus and cancer of the womb *.

Cold bathing is dangerous at or near a *certain period.*

If bracing remedies ſhould not ſucceed, the patient muſt ſubmit to uſe a cork, or other peſſary: but this will be more fully explained in the *Schola Medicinæ.*

On Pains in the Forepart of the Head.

The animal functions ſuffer conſiderably and are frequently deranged in nervous diſeaſes;

* See my treatiſe on this ſubject, and the Letter to Dr. *William Hunter*, late phyſician extraordinary to Her Majeſty, on the dangerous tendency of *medical vanity*, occaſioned by the death of the Lady Holland, &c., in which is an extraordinary caſe of the cure of the *ſcirrhus* and *cancerous ulcer* of the *womb*, and an ulcer in the *rectum*, which had been given up as a loſt caſe by many eminent phyſicians. The mode of cure and preſcriptions are all given in the pamphlet, and afford ſufficient cauſe for humane phyſicians never to loſe hope, even in the moſt deſperate caſes.

ſeaſes; different pains of the head ariſe, which have been treated by medical authors more by the diſtinctions of names, than by cloſe inveſtigation of cauſes.

Pains of the anterior part of the head are of leſs conſequence than in the poſterior; becauſe the cerebrum occupies the former, the cerebellum the latter: irritations or compreſſion of the cerebrum produce delirium, convulſions, &c.; but of the cerebellum *diminiſhed, and ſlower* circulation in the heart itſelf.

If *continual* pain affect the forepart of the head from plenitude, ariſing from obſtructed menſtruation, meditation, or ſtrong paſſions of the mind; venæſection, cathartics, and uterine remedies are eligible.

Depletion, however, will not avail, if the patient be ſuffered to drink large draughts of *diluting* liquors, which is a ſtriking abſurdity, though the moſt common practice in the treatment of plethora *. A drier regimen in plenitude ſhould be, therefore, inſtituted.

* For a more ſatisfactory demonſtration and refutation of the abſurd practice of ordering *diluents* where fullneſs abounds, or *emptying* and *filling* in the ſame moment, the treatiſe on Inflammations, and all other diſeaſes of the Eyes, Eylids, &c. may be conſulted.

The fumes of vinegar and embrocations, are beneficial in promoting a diaphoreſis in pains of the head, and they have a vivifying nervine quality. Volatile frictions, æther, naphtha of nitre, *l'eau de luce*, ſmelling ſalts, &c. are all uſeful in palliating, if not in eradicating, the pain.

If the pain in the head ariſe from acrimony irritating the membranes, whether venereal, rheumatic, gouty, or ſcorbutic, &c. the remedies proper for theſe complaints are to be preſcribed; as mercurials, antimonials, or cinnabarine and other alteratives; veſicatories, cupping on the neck, pediluvia of ſalt and water, or a foot-bath compoſed of ℥ij. *ſpt. ſalis marin.* and three or four gallons of water, to be uſed for half an hour or more, previous to reſt at night; which is excellent in all gouty or rheumatic attacks. Where the pain ariſes from debility and relaxation, *tonics*, and *dry* but nutritious diet, are to be ordered.

Pains in the poſterior Part of the Head.

Intenſe pain in the poſterior part of the head deeply ſeated, with a low, depreſſed, and

and tardy pulſe, indicates *compreſſion* on the *cerebellum*.

The more ſuch pain is attended with ſtupor, or comatoſe ſymptoms and a ſlow pulſe, ſo much the more danger is to be apprehended.

The *cauſes* capable of producing ſuch alarming effects are many: but amongſt the nervous, conſtant meditation on one object, or continual anxiety of mind, with a debilitated, relaxed conſtitution, are the principal.

Perturbations of the mind, from whatever ſource ariſing, like madneſs, determine a greater flow of blood to the brain than the veins can return.

The veſſels of the dura and pia mater, the cerebrum and cerebellum, in all their various foldings, become diſtended.

Diſtenſions enlarge the whole medullary and cortical ſubſtance of the brain, this being compreſſed on all ſides by the ſkull, the brain ſeems too large to be contained in its bony cavity.

The ſenſation of the brain being too large

for

for the ſkull, is common to the deeply ſtudious, ſedentary, penſive, and nervous.

The ſinuſes of the dura mater, though extremely well calculated to prevent ruptures of the veſſels in the brain, yet are only capable of receiving a certain portion of blood.

If the ſuper-abundant blood ſhould not paſs freely through the internal jugulars and occipital veins, accumulations muſt neceſſarily happen in the brain, whoſe veſſels, once over-diſtended, may be liable, from future and ſimilar cauſes, to a continued ſtate of turgency.

Veſſels once *diſtended*, may become ſo *relaxed* afterwards, that their coats may not be able to reſiſt the impelled fluid; relaxation is the conſequence, and a future aptneſs to continue the increaſe of their diameters, as may be ſeen in *habitual* or chronic ophthalmia, or inflamed eyes.

This turgency, according to its magnitude, may more or leſs occaſion ſymptoms of acute or dull pain, depreſſion of ſpirits, languor, low pulſe, faintings, apoplexy or palſy, &c.; for the nervous powers ill ſupplied, or obtunded in the brain, muſt neceſſarily diminiſh the

the vital powers of the heart and arteries, and all parts of the body ſuffer in proportion as theſe are affected *.

From the antecedent obſervations, and on reflecting that diſſections after the death of perſons long afflicted either with headach, or inſanity, demonſtrate a turgency of veſſels, particularly in the *pia mater*; a more rational mode of cure may be eſtabliſhed, than has been hitherto invented.

Not

* Among many abſurdities, the pretended diſcovery of the *nervous fluid*, as a ſubſtance capable of ocular demonſtration, is one of the greateſt. The nervous influence is known moſtly by its effects; the true cauſes are too ſubtile, and perhaps will ever be hid, and inviſible to human diſcernment. I have injected arteries formerly, of ſeveral ſubjects, with a very fine, penetrating, minute injection, and have carried my injection ſo far as to tinge the nerves all through with the colored tincture. By a microſcope thouſands of fine arteries are ſeen all through the ſubſtance of nerves; where there be arteries, veins commonly accompanied them, and lymphatics; if this be allowed, which appears very rational, nerves will ſeem almoſt entirely compoſed of arteries, veins, and lymphatics. What a number of falſe concluſions have been promulgated on the nerves from an ignorance of their ſtructure, even as far as they are really demonſtrable? Theſe ſubjects are freely examined and diſcuſſed in the anatomical part of the *Schola Medicinæ*.

Not only diſtenſion of the veſſels, but an acrimonious ſtate of the blood from the perverſion of digeſtion, conjointly with relaxation and debility, cauſe pains in the head of nervous perſons.

In all ſudden violent pains of the head, joined with a depreſſed and ſlow pulſe, bleeding in the jugular, arm, or cupping in the neck, and extracting blood, are proper; unleſs contra-indicated by ſome momentous cauſe, as dropſy, &c. in which caſe depletion by a ſmart hydragogue purge may be eligible.

The veſſels are turgid indubitably with fluids: diminiſh thoſe fluids, and the turgency cannot poſſibly continue. Neither bleeding nor purging can effect ſuch a rational purpoſe, except *pro tempore*, if patients be indulged in their uſual quantity of liquids; or, what is ſtill worſe, if *diluting liquors* be recommended.

Plenitude or fulneſs of veſſels from redundancy of liquids, and increaſed arterial action, are allowed to be the principal cauſes of inflammation, or diſtenſion of veſſels; evacu-

ations of *bleeding*, *vomiting*, *purging*, are directed; then, *diluting*, as it is called, or rather *filling again*, in the ſame breath. How inconſiſtent! how incongruous! The blood is ſuppoſed capable of *dilution* by aqueous liquids; but a number of facts, drawn from experiments, in many diſorders, prove the contrary.

Neither in a turgency, nor overfulneſs of veſſels from an inflammatory *diatheſis*, nor from relaxation of the vaſcular coats, ſhould *diluting* or over large quantities of drinks be admitted; but in as moderate portions as poſſible to ſuſtain the patient: the leſs the patients drink, the ſooner the diſorder will be cured.

Bleeding patients repeatedly, while an *inflammatory buff*, as it is called, appears, and the ſtarvation ſchemes indiſcriminately applied in various chronic diſorders and hectic fevers, are to the full as contrary to ſound reaſoning, as the *diluting* projects.

Buffy blood will always appear in chronic rheumatiſm and gout; where no true inflammation exiſts, and where repeated bleedings would be attended with danger.

You

You may attempt to *dilute* the blood of pulmonic, hectic, gouty, chronic, rheumatic patients to eternity, were it poſſible: *bleed* daily, and allow nothing but *vegetable* diet; the blood drawn from the majority ſtill appears *ſizy* or *buffy:* a dropſy or incurable debility, and diſeaſed viſcera, may be the conſequence of ſuch ill-projected practices; but no cure of the diſorders. The preceding truths have been admitted by many learned phyſicians; who have been too timid, or indolent, to aſſiſt in ſtemming the torrent of ſuch ill-founded prejudices *.

Evacuation by bleeding or purging, therefore, ſhould always be accompanied with much more abſtinence from *humid food*, than is generally practiſed; by which means the ends of depletion may be obtained; or otherwiſe it will be, in a great meaſure, fruſtrated, and the dilatation of the veſſels will continue.

The moſt effectual *tonics* have their powers diminiſhed by large portions of *tea*, which

* The *treatiſe* on the *regular*, *irregular*, *atonic*, and *flying* gout, explains much on theſe ſubjects.

act as a *fomentation* on the already relaxed coats of the ſtomach and inteſtines; to admit then ſuch watry regimen is counteracting the very intentions for which *bracers* are preſcribed.

Fomentations and warm baths are applied externally to relax rigid fibres, reſolve impacted humors, and ſoften hard tumors, and indeed judiciouſly by ſurgeons; but any one would be conſidered as devoid of reaſon, who preſcribed relaxers and aſtringents in the ſame caſe, and in the ſame moment.

In the nervous headach, when evacuations firſt, and bracers afterwards are indicated, a *dry* diet ſhould be uniformly and ſtrictly obſerved: by theſe methods the relaxed veſſels and fibres of the body will grow more firm, and their particles be rendered more cloſe and compact.

Pain in the poſterior part of the head may originate from an effuſion of ſerum in the ventricles of the brain, by which the pupils of the eyes become dilated, and ſometimes

immoveable: this is rarely cured *. Cauſtics or ſetons, however, behind the head, may give relief in ſome inveterate caſes. I have diſcovered, that the ventricles of the brain all communicate, by many diſſections made at the St. Mary-le-bone Infirmary.

Acrimonies muſt be alſo conſidered, and whatever is irritating ought to be corrected, or evacuated.

Remitting Pains in the Head.

Remitting pains in the head often accompany ſlight nervous fevers; in which caſe the fever ought to be primarily conſidered and removed, by antimonial diaphoretics without *diluents*, volatile ſaline draughts, and afterward, the exacerbation is to be prevented by bark, and acid elixir of vitriol, &c. during the remiſſion.

When the remitting headach is attended with a ſlight fever, and ariſing from diſeaſed viſcera, the *cinnabarine alteratives* and *pulvis radicis valerianæ* ſhould be joined with the

* See the reaſoning and treatment of inflamed eyes, in the treatiſe on 118 diſeaſes of the eyes, eyelids, &c.

the antimonial diaphoretic, or ſaline draught. The powder of bark and valerian has, in the ſlight fevers ariſing from perturbation of mind and relaxation, produced excellent effects.

Tonics, exerciſe, and amuſements will be always beneficial.

Intermittent Headach.

The intermittent pain in the head attacks various parts; but more frequently the frontal ſinus immediately near the eyebrow.

The pain is acute, tears often involuntarily flow, and a ſtrong light is troubleſome; dejection of ſpirits, and ſometimes nauſea from conſent of parts, are the vexatious attendants of this complaint. The pain commences periodically every day, or every ſecond or third, in the manner of an intermittent fever, but without its regular ſtages; for the headach begins without cold ſhivering, continues without the dry tongue or febrile heat, and terminates without increaſed perſpiration or ſweat.

This

This pain, when fixed in a ſmall and any particular part of the head, was improperly called the *clavus hyſtericus*; in general, the part it occupies may be covered with the point of a finger.

The *clavus hyſtericus*, as it hath been called, of the intermittent kind, has been *little underſtood and worſe treated*; for *vomits*, *bliſters*, *ſweating*, *purges*, *cuppings*, *leeches*, and *bleeding*, have been preſcribed; all which remedies are injudicious, unneceſſary, and unſucceſsful.

The one ſymptom, of regular intermiſſion of the pain, points out the type of the diſeaſe, and to what claſs it belongs.

The *cauſes* of this intermittent pain appears to be from relaxation, or from a ſharp irritating ſtimulus, and vaſcular diſtenſion of a part of the frontal, temporal, or occipital muſcles, or ſome of their aponeuroſes; but if internally, the *dura mater* itſelf may be affected*. The *perioſteum*, like-

* The opinion of the late Dr. *Haller* is without foundation; when he aſſerted the *dura mater* to be inſenſible. Diſſections after death, made by myſelf, have demonſtrated diſeaſes of

likewiſe, may be diſeaſed in a ſimilar manner, which every practitioner of experience knows to be irritable and capable of acute pain, *exempli gratia*, in old venereal attacks, particularly of the *nocturnal* ſpecies.

The cure of the intermittent headach ſhould be conducted by the methods the intermittent fevers are cured; but there is a ſtrong objection to *vomiting* in diſorders of the head: indeed I am thoroughly convinced ſuch a rough practice is quite unneceſſary in every ſpecies of intermittent fever, or what is called vulgarly the *ague*.

If *milder* methods than vomiting can be ſubſtituted, and the cure with equal certainty be performed, they ought to be adopted by every candid, unprejudiced, and humane phyſician.

The ſucceeding methods have cured intermittents in ſeveral thouſands of inſtances, and in many, when all the uſual preſcriptions

of this membrane, which during life cauſed the moſt exquiſite pain. The great Haller's experiments and reaſoning on this ſubject are by no means concluſive to inquiſitive minds.

tions have failed, though repeated many months.

Inſtead of vomiting, the firſt remedy preſcribed is a ſtomachic purgative to clear the ſtomach and inteſtines. This may be compoſed of rhubarb and ginger, tinctura ſacra, vinum aloeticum diluted, or infuſion and tincture of ſena. All ſaline purgatives are improper. Afterward, every other night, to prevent coſtiveneſs, or remove viſceral obſtruction,

No. 88. ℞. Merc. dulc. ſexies ſubl. ppt. gr. iij. vel vj.
Pil. Rufi vel extract. cathart, ℈ij. M. accurate f. pilulæ No. xij. quarum ſumat j. omni vel alternâ quâque nocte.

On the firſt intermiſſion of the fever, or head-ach, after clearing the inteſtines,

No. 89. ℞. Pulv. cort. peruv. ʒij.
Decoct. ejuſdem ℥vij.
Tinct. amar. ʒvij.
Elix. vitriol. acid. ʒj. f. miſtura, cujus coch. iij. larga, ſecundâ, tertiâ, vel quartâ quâque horâ, ſecundum violentiam morbi ſumenda, in doloris capitis intermiſſione.

This plan has ſucceeded in numerous inſtances of the intermittent headach, and even intermittent fevers. A *dry* nutritious diet ſhould

ſhould be recommended, *tea*, and *all ſlops*, or *broths*, *gruels*, &c. ſhould be abſolutely avoided; but porter, or ale with ginger, or a glaſs of red port or other wine, may be allowed at meals.

If the bark thus preſcribed ſhould fail, then the following preſcription will remove the inveteracy and obſtinacy of the complaint:

No. 90. ℞. Spec. aromat. ʒj.
Pulv. cort. peruv. ℥ſs. Syr. ſimp. q. s.
F. electuarium de quo capiat Q. N. M. largæ ſecundâ vel tertiâ quâque horâ in intermiſſione doloris capitis, vel febris, ſuperbibendo coch. iij. miſturæ ſequentis:

No. 91. ℞. Decoct. cort. peruv. ℥vijſs.
Spt. lavend. c. ℥ſs.
Vitriol. alb. gr. j. ij. vel. iij. M. f. miſtura.

It has been lately remarked by our learned Preſident of the London College, Sir George Baker, that the bark has not ſucceeded in curing intermittents; the bark is certainly very often adulterated, which may be one cauſe of its inefficacy: but for my own part, for above twenty-five years, I always united other *tonics* with the *cortex peruvianus*.

The tonics I have moſtly depended on are, the *ſal martis*, *flores martiales*, *limatura martis*, ſmall

ſmall doſes of the *vitriolum album*, the *flores zinci*, and ſimilar preparations; all of which, except the prepared ſteel, ſhould be preſcribed in a diſſolved form, in order to divide and diffuſe their particles, and render them eaſier on the ſtomach.

The *vitriolum album* in ſmall doſes, without any bark, has cured great numbers in the ague, given in the following mode:

No. 92. Take of chamomile flowers a quarter of an ounce, let them be boiled ten minutes in little more than a quart of water.

Strain off the liquor through flannel, at the ſame time preſſing the flowers.

Pour the liquor into a quart bottle, when cool.

Then weigh out 4, 6, or 8 grains of white vitriol, according to the age, ſex, or ſtrength of the patient, which muſt be diſſolved in a glaſs or marble mortar by rubbing it with the peſtle, and adding ſome of the liquor.

When the white vitriol is diſſolved, it muſt be well ſhaken with what is in the quart bottle.

Laſtly, add a quarter of an ounce of grated ginger, or powdered allſpice.

After having firſt purged the patient with ſena tea or Daffy's elixir, rhubarb, or any bitter purge, it is neceſſary to wait until the fit of the ague is off, which is the ſpace of time between one fit and the other.

One, two, or three table ſpoonfuls of the above mixture, are to be taken according to the age and ſtrength of patients,

patients, or violence of the ague, every two, three, or four hours between the fits.

The ague by this means diminiſhes; every following fit is ſlighter, and the diſorder is frequently cured in a few days, without the bark.

During the time of taking the *vitriolic ague mixture*, the bowels ſhould be kept open by the following pill, eſpecially if the ſpleen, which is called vulgarly the *ague cake*, or the liver, be affected, circumſtances common to agues,

Take of prepared calomel (from Apothecaries' hall in London) 5 or 10 grains.

Rufus's pill one dram; let them be beaten together in a mortar until the powder and the maſs of the pill be well blended together.

Then divide the whole into twenty pills.

If Rufus's pill, or what is called the colocynth pill, with or without aloes or cathartic extract, be uſed, the difference is trivial; but Rufus's pill is beſt for *females*.

If the maſs of the pill ſhould be too hard, a drop of brandy put to it, and beating it in the mortar, will render it ſofter.

To thoſe patients who have been accuſtomed to drink ſpirits, a little brandy, gin, or Britiſh ſpirits, ſhould be added to the vitriolic mixture.

The expence attending the cure of each patient is not, on an average, above four pence or

or ſix-pence at moſt, and it is now publiſhed, that *humanity* may have an opportunity of aſſiſting *poverty*.

A dry diet is neceſſary; for moiſture is a principal cauſe of the ague; if *tea* be uſed, one ſmall diſh morning and evening will be ſufficient; meat may be eaten, and grated ginger may be always added to malt liquors. This mode of diet in autumn and winter would greatly prevent the *ague*.

If bark, however, be added to the mixture, which might render it more powerful, half an ounce powdered will be ſufficient for that purpoſe; which makes an additional four-pence. At a moderate computation a *hundred poor perſons* may be *cured*, even if the bark were added, at leſs than a *ſhilling each*, which in the whole would not amount to five pounds *.

This explicit mode of curing the *ague* is delivered for the benefit of thoſe charitable *ladies*

* Bark powdered may be had in London from ſeven to eight or nine ſhillings a pound; chamomile flowers are about three ſhillings per pound; white vitriol not above a penny an ounce; calomel prepared twelve pence per ounce.

Rufus's pills, &c. nine-pence to a ſhilling per ounce.

ladies or others, who reſide in the country, or remote from cities, or who are induced to relieve the diſtreſſes of their poor neighbours.

Intermittent inflammations of the eye are more common than is imagined, and are rendered worſe by bleeding, purging, bliſtering, applying cauſtics or iſſues, poultices, &c.; theſe ſhould be cured by bark, tonics, and *dry* diet *.

The intermittent toothach in relaxed nervous habits ſhould be cured in a ſimilar manner; in ſhort, all intermittent complaints whatever, when ariſing from laxity of ſolids, depravations of the fluids, and nervous debility. There are, however, few nervous caſes that require the *vitriolum album;* bark, confectio cardiaca, and volatile ſalts; or elixir of vitriol joined with bark and ſome aromatic, as the ſpecies aromaticæ, &c. commonly ſucceed †.

The

* See my treatiſe on 218 Diſeaſes of the Eyes; this is a diſcovery I made early in life, and have ſeen its ſucceſs above 20 years.

† I had lately a very remarkable inſtance in a very nervous female patient of Mr. Hogarth's, in Swallow-ſtreet, who every night was ſeized at ſix o'clock, after tea, with the moſt excruciating

The ſubject of intermittents ſhould not be quitted without animadverſions on a few prejudices that have prevailed.

1. It is ſaid, that the intermittent fever is often a cure for ſome other diſorder, and therefore ſhould not be haſtily cured.

2. That intermittent complaints ſhould be ſuffered to continue a limited time before the bark be adminiſtered.

3. That bark is the ſpecific and certain cure for the ague or intermittent fevers.

4. When *bark purges*, it ſhould be joined with opium.

5. That vomits ſhould always be given ſome little time before the paroxyſm or fit, or in ſhort, it is always the firſt remedy preſcribed in the ague, and even moſt other fevers.

I. *The ague* is *not the cure of any diſorder;* but a diſeaſe very inimical to the human frame,

ating pains in the feet firſt, then they aſcended up the limbs, and laſtly to the os ſacrum and inguen, taking away the uſe of her limbs, and occaſioning convulſions. I immediately ordered a laxative, and very large doſes of bark, ſpecies aromat. and vitiolic elixir, every hour or two in the intermiſſion. Theſe means immedia ely diminiſhed the ſucceeding fit, and the patient was reſtored to the uſe of her limbs, the pains and convulſions ceaſed, and ſhe was cured in a few days.

frame, depraving the juices, relaxing the ſolids, depreſſing the ſpirits, and, laſtly, greatly injuring the viſcera and their functions, particularly the ſtomach, inteſtines, liver, and ſpleen, &c. which anatomical diſſections have fully demonſtrated. To run the riſk of introducing theſe *injuries* to the human body, in hopes of being relieved from any *other complaint*, is too ridiculous even for inexperience, one would imagine, to credit or adopt; yet theſe doctrines have been taught by great phyſicians in other reſpects, and have been credited.

II. *Intermittent fevers*, or *agues ſhould not be ſuffered* to continue a *limited time* before they be cured. The contrary of this propoſition was ſupported on the ſame flimſy grounds of the former article, and points out the ſame objections. The blood is depraved, and laxer in its *texture;* let the *ague relax* it more, ſay theſe wiſe phyſicians; the ſtomach is weak, relaxed, and incapable of digeſtion, and the inteſtines of chylification, render them leſs capable of performing theſe neceſſary functions; the *face* is *pale*, the *red particles of blood are deſtroyed*, the *ſpirits* are

ſunk,

ſunk, the muſcular actions are all debilitated; make theſe calamities *worſe*; and when the patient is reduced to death's door, ſay the infatuated, then adminiſter the ſheet-anchor, that ſacred *dernier reſort*, the bark.

I aſſert from my *own experience*, and the experience of hundreds of other practitioners in this country, that the bark, after a ſtomachic bitter laxative, cannot be adminiſtered too ſoon, nor too often; *cut down* the diſeaſe in the *bud*, on its firſt appearance, never ſuffer it to take root, and all its conſequences are prevented *.

III. *Bark alone* is pronounced a *ſpecific* in the ague; I aſſert the contrary is the caſe in many inſtances: hundreds have been cured, in the manner I have already communicated, without a particle of bark, nor am I without hopes of ſtill improving thoſe plans of cure, which have been ſo ſucceſsful. Perhaps centaury, wormwood, or other bitters, would anſwer,

* In the St. Mary-le-bone infirmary, the ſucceſs attending the liberal uſe of bark and vitriolic acid, not only in intermittents, but in the putrid fevers, puts the utility of the remedies above the poſſibility of a doubt, in hundreds of inſtances, when not *contra-indicated* by pulmonic complaints, &c.

ſwer every purpoſe of chamomile flowers, which is merely a bitter ſtomachic of no great efficacy.

The *bark alone* is never ſo efficacious, as when aromatics and vitriolic preparations are added to it; the ague by theſe modes is cured immediately, often without a ſecond *fit*; and certainly a prompt, is preferable to a ſlow languid cure*.

4. When

* The principal part of theſe animadverſions is calculated more for the Continent, or places in our own country remote from London; in this great city abundance of practice muſt have confirmed theſe obſervations. I have ſeen the poor in the hoſpitals of *Turin*, *Genoa*, *Florence*, *Rome*, *Naples*, *Venice*, and different parts of France as well as Italy, bled in the ague repeatedly, and even in *putrid remitting fevers*. No arguments I could uſe with the phyſicians of the hoſpitals, could prevail, to induce them to change their bleeding, ſtarving plan, and diluting, though the patients died, in favor of giving ſmall doſes of antimonials in *paroxyſmo* vel *exacerbatione febris*, and in the remiſſion, or intermiſſion, *cortex peruvianus*, vitriolic acid, and to direct a dry diet.

Phyſicians ſhould liſten to propoſed improvements with candor and humanity, and after reflection by analogy, and probable effects of remedies, if not dangerous, ſhould try their efficacy with fairneſs, and not with an arrogant ſuppoſition or wiſh, that what is not of their own acquiſition, may not have merit. I adviſe my travelling countrymen never to approach the Continent without *James's powder* and *bark*; theſe have ſaved many Engliſh lives, when the ſelf-concit and obſtinacy of French or Italian phyſicians would have

IV. When the bark *purges*, it is frequently not ſo inefficacious, as has been ſuppoſed; on the contrary, it perhaps carries off from the inteſtines what would diminiſh its *tonic* effects. Bark does not enter the lacteal ſyſtem, nor is abſorbed by inhalent veins; its *tonic* qualities act on the coats of the ſtomach and

have proved fatal. At Vienna and other parts of Germany, Flanders and Holland, practical medicine, with ſome few exceptions, is better.

Men acquire a profeſſor's chair, ſometimes, before they have written many preſcriptions, before they have had opportunities for great practice and experience; in which caſe all the knowledge they iſſue is dependant on the caprices, opinions, or perhaps, fallacies of their predeceſſors, whom they follow for ever, with implicit obedience, without uſing their own reaſoning faculties. Men are not capable of teaching, who are not well taught and experienced themſelves; and no man can well comprehend medicine, by either hearing lectures, or much reading; but by long practical experience and obſervations made by himſelf, on the force of diſeaſes, and power of medicine. Tuition frequently taints the fancy with numerous prejudices, and a deleterious intoxication; but a multitude of experience in practice ſobers the mind again. Trifling medicines would never be preſcribed in important caſes, nor powerful remedies in trivial diſeaſes, where knowledge is obtained by experiments and obſervation. Men ſit down too often with an indolent ſatisfaction that they comprehend the extent of the art, when they are in the infancy of their ſtudies. A phyſician's *whole life* ſhould be a ſeries of *ſtudy* and *reflection*.

and inteſtines only, which a number of experiments made by me prove. When, however, it continues purging for two or three days, prepared chalk, terra japonica, or extractum ligni campechenſis, and ſome aromatic, ſhould be added; which much better accords with the bracing power of the bark than *opiates*.

Opiates diminiſh the moving powers, and create coſtiveneſs, both which ſhould be avoided in all low, nervous or intermittent fevers; for theſe complaints commonly ariſe from relaxation, a depraved relaxed texture of the blood, and a weakened force of the arterial ſyſtem, notwithſtanding the pulſations are accelerated.

Vomits in the intermittent fevers, and indeed moſt other fevers, are unneceſſary, unleſs the ſtomach abound with *ſaburra*: they force an immenſe quantity of blood to the head, and conſequently diſtend veſſels, which ſhould preſerve their diameters: this diſtenſion from vomits in the commencement of fevers, may be a principal cauſe of the *delirium* towards the criſis; but this is explained more fully in another place *.

* In the treatment of Fevers, &c. in the *Schola Medicinæ*.

In the intermittent fever, or ague, the viſcera, ſuch as the liver and ſpleen, are often diſeaſed; all judicious phyſicians know, or ſhould know, that vomiting is contra-indicated in diſeaſed *viſcera*, and unleſs there be *ſaburra*, *bile*, or other matter in the ſtomach, which cannot be carried down through the inteſtinal canal, *vomits* ſhould certainly be excluded.

It is ſolemnly aſſerted, from experience on thouſands, that the ague can be cured always without *vomits*, and the obſtructions of the viſcera prevented, or often removed ſafely, by a *ſmall doſe* of calomel and any aloetic or bitter purgative repeated every other night, after the bowels have been firſt thoroughly cleanſed.

The *liver* or *ſpleen* being diſeaſed, or the bile ducts obſtructed, are the principal impediments in curing the intermittent fever, or ague; therefore removing thoſe impediments by aloetic pills with calomel, or ſoap with any aloetic, or by ſal diureticus, &c. are methods commonly crowned with ſucceſs. I have always attempted in agues, and, indeed, all intermittent complaints, the prevention

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or removal of viſceral or inteſtinal obſtruction, by giving *alterna quaque nocte*, while the bark or other tonics were adminiſtered, half a grain of calomel, and from three to ſix grains of the *pilula Ruſi*, and this rarely without ſucceſs.

When the fit of the ague may be expected, a few grains of *James's powder*, or from the fourth to the eighth part of a grain of *tartarum antimoniale*, ſo as neither to occaſion nauſea nor vomiting, are proper, and they ſhould be repeated every two, three, or four hours, to excite perſpiration, remove obſtruction, and ſhorten the duration of the cold and hot fits*.

A dram of the true *crude ſal ammoniac* diſſolved in any proper vehicle, and given an hour or two before the fit, has been recommended as a ſovereign cure for the ague; but as I have not tried it, and as I cannot perceive any tonic qualities in the remedy, except from its frigidity, I have thought it moſt humane

* Amongſt other miſtaken notions, is one which aſſerts, that antimonials do not excite perſpiration without creating naufea or vomiting, repeated trials prove the contrary; unleſs amongſt the very robuſt and torpid.

mane to proceed in the modes which ſcarce ever fail of ſucceeding.

Slight temporary Delirium.

Nervous patients are afflicted with ſlight wanderings of the mind, at times; they are *momentary*, without fever, and may ariſe from whatever irritates the brain, either corporeal or mental; but ſuicide, where it was not expected, has been ſuddenly the conſequence.

If diſtenſion of the œſophagus from air be the cauſe, by retarding the circulation in the returning veins, carminatives, aſafœtida, and other antiſpaſmodics, and antacids, are uſeful.

If the ſlight temporary delirium can be ſuppoſed to originate in any acrimony irritating the brain, the cure may be rationally attempted by correctors of the prevailing acrimony, or by *mineral alteratives*.

Extreme relaxation may be the cauſe; which is diſcoverable by the countenance; then tonics and a dry nutritious diet ſhould be preſcribed, bark, volatiles, tonics, &c.

Mental

Mental perturbation, or violent paſſions, will kindle up a temporary delirium; when the furor is abated, calmneſs, ſerenity, and a determination not to be diſturbed by any thing, however provoking, ſhould be recommended; but this is too often without effect; it is eaſy to adviſe, but great feeling and ſenſibility of mind excite painful ſenſations, with which the more inſenſible are totally unacquainted. Perſons of the greateſt honor and probity have the niceſt feelings, and they are born to be proportionably tormented by the worthleſs and villanous.

Drowſineſs.

Somnolentia, or drowſineſs, indicates compreſſion on the brain, and may ariſe from fullneſs of veſſels, from an overloaded ſtomach, or from meditation, which is apt to ſend a great quantity of blood to the brain.

During digeſtion, or chylification after dinner, numbers are attacked with drowſineſs.

This ſymptom, in hot climates, and in *Italy*, is indulged by reſt after dinner without injury.

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In colder climates, it is ſometimes a prelude to more ſerious diſeaſes, as apoplexy and palſy, and ſhould be removed by obviating the different cauſes.

Volatiles, a more abſtemious diet, evacuants, diaphoretics, pediluvia, exerciſes, and amuſements, are the general remedies againſt drowſineſs.

Stupor, or *Hebetudo*,

Is a dulneſs of memory and mind; ideas cannot be recalled nor commanded without unuſual exertion. Patients ſeem, ſometimes, to reflect deeply, but often cannot expreſs by tongue their conceptions.

Cauſes.—This is ſometimes attendant on old age, it continues after inveterate epilepſies, apoplexy, or palſy; or ſucceeds intenſe meditation, or any great and long continued violent exertions, and paſſions of the mind.

Hemlock, *opium*, or other narcotics, have produced this ſymptom *.

Prognoſtic.

* The lady whom I cured of a cancerous ulcer of the womb, and who was the ſubject of the letter againſt Dr. Hunter on Medical Vanity, had taken only ſmall doſes of hemlock by Drs. Fothergill

Prognoſtic.—When the ſtupor is recent or accidental from the uſe of opiates or narcotics, it is eaſier cured by an abſtinence from thoſe medicines, than in caſes ariſing from an impaired mind, apoplexy, or palſy; for theſe latter, in progreſs of time, end fatally, with or without convulſions, lethargy, &c.

The *cure* requires an inveſtigation of cauſes and their removal. Volatile ſalts, the *ſal ſuccini*, antimonial diaphoretics, cupping, frictions, bliſters, pediluvia, evacuants, as diuretics, cathartics, and diaphoretics; or *alteratives* of the cinnabarine kind, if from acrimony, are to be adminiſtered.

Watchfulneſs, or *Pervigilium*,

Is the defect of ſleep, or a ſolicitude for ſleep, without acquiring it.

The bodily *cauſes* are, every *depraved ſtate* of the blood that can *irritate* the brain; ſuppurations, ulcers, &c.; the mental, ſtrong affections

gill and Hunter's order: this medicine produced ſuch loſs of memory, that while ſhe had a bit of light pudding on a fork in her hand, ſhe called for her dinner, and it was with difficulty ſhe could be made to ſwallow her food, when ſhe had it in her mouth; ſo impaired was her memory by taking hemlock.

affections of the mind, as love, grief, fear, &c.

The conſent of the ſtomach with the brain may likewiſe occaſion watchfulneſs by indigeſtible food, detained wind, &c.

The *cure* is to be attempted by removing the different cauſes.

If watchfulneſs originate from bodily pain, unleſs neceſſary for ſome important purpoſe, *light opiates* may be admitted, as paregoric elixir in camphorated julep. If from *mental perturbation*, opiates often render the ſymptom worſe, and produce ſlight deliriums, or convulſions.

When indigeſtion in the ſtomach is the cauſe, light bitter aloetics in mint water are proper, not to purge, but merely to act as ſtomachics.

In debility, corroborants are neceſſary, and a *dry diet;* if prevailing acrimony be the cauſe, it ſhould be removed chiefly by rendering the blood more balſamic by the uſe of *metallic alteratives*, and proper diet.

Frightful

Frightful Dreams, Incubus, or *Night-mare.*

The nervous or indiſpoſed perſons are oppreſſed during ſleep with a heavy preſſing ſenſation on the cheſt, by which reſpiration is impeded, or the circulation of blood intercepted, to ſuch a degree as to threaten ſuffocation.

Frightful ideas are recollected on waking, which occupied the dreaming mind.

Frequent attempts are made to *cry out*, but often without effect, and the horrors and agitations felt by the patient are inexpreſſibly frightful.

Theſe ſenſations generally originate in a large quantity of wind, or indigeſtible matter in the ſtomach of *ſupper-eaters*, which preſſing the ſtomach againſt the diaphragm impede reſpiration, or render it ſhort and convulſed. Inflated inteſtines may likewiſe produce ſimilar effects; or mental perturbation.

Worms in the ſtomach or inteſtines may, by irritation, prevent ſleep.

The

The forementioned inſtances are relieved by avoiding all flatulent food, or ſuppers, and by giving carminatives, bitter ſtomachics, and laxatives, a little ſpirits and water, inſtead of malt liquors, &c.

Worms are to be removed by the anthelmintics, mentioned in this treatiſe.

There is another ſpecies of the *incubus* or *night-mare*, which has a more dangerous tendency, and this ariſes from an impeded circulation of blood in the lungs, when lying down; or too great relaxation of the heart and its impelling powers.

Epilepſy, apoplexy, or ſudden death, are ſometimes amongſt the conſequences of this ſpecies of diſturbed ſleep.

Polypi in the large veſſels, aneuriſms, *water* in the thorax, pericardium, or lungs, empyema, &c. are amongſt the moſt dangerous cauſes. Theſe I have diſcovered by diſſections.

A ſlighter cauſe may be air diſtending the œſophagus, for ſometimes from ſmall particles of food lodged, during ſwallowing, will ariſe fermentation, hence acid air, inflation, &c. An over-abundance of coagulable lymph

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in the blood, joined with debility in the arterial ſyſtem, may give riſe to *polypoſe* concretions.

This ſtate of blood is common to gouty, rheumatic, and nervous patients, and is no ſign, as was formerly imagined, of *true* inflammation; and experienced practitioners know that bleeding repeatedly has been attended with fatal conſequences; for it has produced dropſies, or worſe diſeaſes.

If polypoſe concretions may be ſuppoſed, which is not eaſily known, in urgent caſes and difficult reſpiration, unleſs among the gouty and debilitated, bleeding ſhould be uſed; afterwards bliſters repeated, volatile alkalies, or the *ſal ſodæ*, *ol. tart. per deliquium*, according as circumſtances indicate, joined with the bitter infuſion, are proper.

Pediluvia of *ſpiritus ſalis* marin. ʒiij. ad conj. iv. *aquæ tepidæ*, are proper, particularly to the gouty and rheumatic *, to be uſed

* See my treatiſe on the Gout, and its falſe alleviation by this remedy. Since the publication of the firſt edition I have ſeen very excellent effects from theſe bathings; not as a radical cure of the gout, but as a great mitigator of all its ſymptoms. The ſecond edition, with many new obſervations on the regular, irregular, atonic, and flying gout, is now publiſhed.

uſed ſucceſſively every night for twelve or fourteen times.

Water in the cheſt, or pericardium, lungs, &c. is rarely removed; but attempts may be made by antimonial diaphoretics, evacuating cathartics not too freely adminiſtered; by chalybeates and other tonics, if they do not impede reſpiration; bliſters to the cheſt, and a very dry nutritious diet. Tar water has been uſeful in theſe caſes, and diuretics of the terebinthinate kind.

In the empyema, the purulent matter muſt be evacuated by the chirurgical operation for that diſeaſe; but as the diſorder commonly ariſes from ſuppurations of the lungs, &c. little ſucceſs is expected in ſuch calamitous diſeaſes. A long experience has convinced me, that none, or very few, recover after the empyema, water in the cheſt, pericardium, &c.

The aneuriſm either of the aorta, or ſubclavian artery, is always incurable.

The moſt common cauſe of diſturbed ſleep amongſt the nervous is a quick perceptibility of mind, and too anxious a concern for whatever engages the attention; therefore love, hope,

hope, fear, ſuſpenſe, vexation, grief, or even the contemplation of paſt pleaſures or ſuffering, will eaſily diſturb ſleep, and occaſion horrid or frightful dreams.

When the principal cauſe has been long reſident in the mind, medicine can afford little relief, except by blunting the ſenſations with fetid remedies; by mild reaſonings, and by a friendly participation of the anxiety that diſturbs the patient's tranquillity. The conſtitution, however, ſhould be invigorated.

Agitations of the mind, Peeviſhneſs or Petulance.

The diſpoſition of human minds often change from bodily indiſpoſition: the beſt tempers become captious, peeviſh, iraſcible under various diſeaſes, and the moſt fierce and tyrannical are frequently depreſſed, mild, and timid from the ſame ſources.

A ſharp acrimonious blood, joined with exquiſite ſenſibility of mind, will greatly conduce to the production of feelings diſtreſsful to the poſſeſſor; ſlight accidents are magnified into the greateſt misfortunes; the

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ſoul perceives every thing through a cloud, and no balmy rays of comfort are admiſſible to ſuch afflicted beings. The changes perceived by the mind, acting on a diſeaſed or vigorous body, are ſurpriſing: all our acuté feelings, joy, grief, &c. are very much dependant on the ſtate of the body: are we not light and volatile in health and clear weather? Are we not dull and depreſſed by debility and moiſt rainy ſeaſons? Compare ſmiling *May* with ſpirit-ſinking *November*.

A mind agitated and thrown into violent paſſions from little cauſes, indicates a depraved ſharp ſtate of the blood, and great ſenſibility in the nervous ſyſtem.

The degeneracy of blood in nervous diſeaſes might have been the principal cauſe.

Sharp blood produces inexpreſſible uneaſy ſenſations in the body.

The mind becomes peeviſh without knowing the cauſe.

An *agitated mind* is productive of inappetency, or indigeſtion, and a depraved chylification.

Depraved chyle produces *depraved blood*.

Degeneracies of the blood, occaſion degeneracies in all the *fluids*, *ſecretions*, and *excretions*.

It is eaſy to conceive the mind and body becoming reciprocally and alternately the cauſe and the effect; the effect and the cauſe of miſerable ſenſations, burſting forth into violent paſſions. The mind appears irritated when acting on a ſharp ſtate of the blood, ſerene and chearful on an healthful ſtate of the body; torpid in diminiſhed ſenſibility.

Iraſcibility and petulance appear natural to ſome particular perſons; or, rather, they are often acquired by ſelf-indulgence, or the early indulgence of parents and friends*.

Wherever agitations of the mind, peeviſhneſs, or petulance exiſt, they always injure the conſtitution, and they increaſe in proportion as they are cheriſhed or indulged.

The ſtate of the body ſhould be conſidered, and whatever diſeaſe it labours under ſhould be removed.

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* The ſubjects are purſued more accurately in my *Hiſtoria & Schola Medicinæ*, wherein different ſtates of the blood are demonſtrated to exiſt according to different paſſions of the mind; which throws a great light on human character and its diverſities.

In debility, after proper evacuations, by ſtomachic laxatives, tonics, and dry nouriſhing diet; in acrimony or ſharpneſs of humors, correctors, according to the ſpecies, are to be adminiſtered of *æthiops*, or *cinnabar* of antimony, and the *pulvis e tragacanth. compoſitus*, &c.

Thoſe who indulge themſelves voluntarily in agitating their minds without provoking cauſes, ſhould be well informed, that they embrace the moſt effectual methods, not only to ſhorten, but even to render their exiſtence, during life, miſerable. Under theſe circumſtances it is difficult to follow advice, however ſalutary.

If patients be not determined to be calm, or to moderate their paſſions by ſtruggling againſt them, medicine will ſeldom prove efficacious, however judiciouſly preſcribed.

Nervous patients ſhould, therefore, under theſe circumſtances, never condemn medicine as defective in not being able to eradicate, or counteract the natural or acquired propenſities of the human mind, long grown inconquerable by too much indulgence, or by long diſeaſe.

Changing the ſtate of blood, however, by *mild alteratives*, has very much contributed to the cure of what is known by the name of *bad unhappy tempers*; for the blood being rendered more balſamic and healthful by the removal of acrimony, the ſenſations of body and mind become more pleaſant, and *ill-humor*, with all its aggravating malignity, is gradually diſſipated.

Miſerable feelings at the happineſs of others, or *envy*, with all its poiſonous malignity, are certainly more owing to a *bad ſtate* of blood, and certain form of body, than has been generally imagined; and indeed the countenance of ſuch miſerables indicate, by the glance of their eyes, the unhappy ſenſations of the ſoul; while pallidneſs, ſallowneſs, and meagerneſs, ſhew the indiſpoſition, and bad nutrition of the body. *Frontis nulla fides* * may be uſeful to the undiſcerning, but not to the experienced and ſenſible, when applied to the delineation of human character. Penetrating phyſiognomiſts comprehend the natural diſpoſition of human beings, after long experience and obſervation amongſt mankind,

* Juvenal, Sat. 2. ver. 8.

mankind, by a momentary glance, and they credit, or ſuſpect appearances with tolerable certainty. Thoſe who are moſt inclined to doubt a poſſibility of detecting human character in the countenance, are, perhaps, the perſons who, by *artifice*, wiſh moſt to conceal the depravities of their hearts, and who act always in maſquerade. A celebrated French author ſays: *Et l'on n'eſt jamais ſi aiſément trompé, que quand on ſonge à tromper les autres.*

Phyſicians, above all others, have the greateſt opportunities of developing human character; they ſee mankind in health and ſickneſs; under diſguiſe and without diſguiſe, in courts and in ſick chambers; and I am certain thoſe, who make the juſteſt obſervations, will be moſt capable of preſcribing for the diverſities of human nature.

Education, ſocial life, and polite company, will reſtrain or correct a natural vitiated diſpoſition, but not entirely eradicate the ſeeds of perverſeneſs and ill humor, nor induce the crafty and deſigning to be unreſerved.

Thoſe who well comprehend human character, know, that it is as difficult for the *open*, *generous*, and *juſt*, to be guilty of duplicity

plicity or deceit, as the *artful*, *deſigning*, and *malignant* to act with *integrity*, *truth*, and *juſtice*. *Cicero* ſays, very juſtly, *Frons eſt animi janua*; no man had greater opportunities of underſtanding mankind, in the active ſcenes of life.

J. Baptiſta Porta has made excellent obſervations on theſe ſubjects.

Lavater has diſtinguiſhed himſelf as a moſt exquiſite phyſiognomiſt; but phyſicians may carry the ſubject much farther; for they may diſcover many cauſes of human character in the ſtate of the blood, form of body, and mental propenſity, independent of original tranſmiſſion of conſtitution from parents; or what is attained by education, example, precepts, cuſtoms, and different climates: theſe are ſubjects little attended to; but the field is immenſe for deep ſpeculation and curative utility, and well merits the ſerious conſideration of every ſcientific phyſician.

The ancients conſidered, what they called *temperaments*, or various differences of conſtitutions; but they failed in demonſtrations on theſe ſubjects; therefore experimental phi-

philoſophy, chemiſtry, mathematics, mechanics, hydroſtatics, pneumatics, &c. have been, at times, prematurely forced into the medical art, in order to *fix* medicine to ſome more *permanent ſtandard* for practice. Various inquiries of this nature have occupied the attentions of the moderns, but the doctrines of temperaments have been nearly neglected. It is hoped, various temperaments and conſtitutions, which indubitably exiſt in nature, will be more accurately ſcrutinized; for the great lights of the circulation; the known differences of arterial and venal blood; the diſcoveries made in the lymphatic ſyſtem, the chemical analyſes and other modes of aſcertaining the component principles of blood and other fluids of different habits; the diſcoveries and experiments on the nerves; electricity, air, fire, water, earths, &c. &c. all tend to cure the medical mind of former prejudices. Though attempts to explain the deep cauſes of human character may be new and difficult, yet if they be purſued with vigor and energy, the whole art of medicine will be rendered more certain; for it would

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be applied more aptly to the individual conſtitution of mutable nature.*

The effects of love, grief, deſpair, envy, hilarity, deep meditation on one ſubject, in ſhort, of all the human paſſions and ſentiments, will hereafter be conſidered in a manner not hitherto attempted; which may tend more ſatisfactorily to elucidate nervous and maniacal affections †.

Groundleſs Fears and diſmal Apprehenſions.

The groundleſs fears and diſmal apprehenſions of the nervous are truly ſhocking to their

* What obſervations and experiments I have made from conſidering form of body, ſtate of blood, hereditary diſpoſitions, dawnings of the infantile mind, education diſcipline, precepts, examples, cuſtoms of countries, powers and effects of climate, diet, laws, religions, &c. &c. ſhall be unreſervedly communicated; and though not ſo perfect as I could wiſh, yet it may induce others to purſue the ſame ſtudies, which will prove an excellent addition to the republic of medicine.

† With regard to the paſſion of love, the hiſtory of Seleucus Nicanor, and Antiochus his ſon, is a great proof of the penetrating diſcernment of the firſt great improver in anatomy, Eraſiſtratus.

Eraſiſtratus, the famous phyſician to Seleucus Nicanor, king of Syria, is an inſtance what an attentive and ſkilful practitioner can diſcover, by obſerving the features and changes in the color of the face

their friends, and inexpreſſibly depreſſing and melancholy to the ſufferers. The oppreſſed mind

face—Antiochus, the ſon of Seleucus, fell in love with Stratonica, his mother-in-law, wife to Seleucus; but not daring to diſcover it, he fell dangerouſly ſick with a high fever. Eraſiſtratus, the phyſician, was called for, who obſerved, that the preſence of Stratonica made great alterations in the prince, whenever ſhe came into the chamber; on the contrary, when other people or ladies came to enquire, no changes were perceivable: he then gueſſed at the real cauſe of the prince's indiſpoſition, and endeavoured to acquaint Seleucus of the caſe with great prudence and circumſpection. Eraſiſtratus told the king, that the caſe of the prince was incurable, as it was cauſed by a violent love for a woman whom he could not poſſeſs.

What do you ſay? Is there no remedy for my ſon? ſaid the king. Eraſiſtratus replied, *Sire, you will ſoon be convinced of it, when I tell you that the prince is in love with my own wife, and I am reſolved not to part with her on any account whatever.* Seleucus then took Eraſiſtratus in his arms, and ſaid, *How can you refuſe me what alone can ſave a ſon whom I ſo tenderly love!* To this the phyſician anſwered, *Great Sire, pleaſe to put yourſelf in my place, would you, royal Sire, give up Stratonica, if the prince loved her?*

Ah, by all the gods! exclaimed Seleucus, *if it pleaſed them to reſtore my ſon to health, and this could be the means, I would with great pleaſure cede Stratonica, and give alſo to him a conſiderable part of my empire.*

Immediately Seleucus declared his ſon king of Aſia Superior, and gave him Stratonica as a wife. The good ſenſe and prudence of Eraſiſtratus muſt appear very evident. Eraſiſtratus and Herophilus, Tertullian ſays, had diſſected 600 human bodies, in order to get acquainted with human nature. They had ſufficient

influence

mind is wretched in its preſent condition, and anticipates a thouſand imaginary miſfortunes.

influence with the Ptolemeys to have permiſſion to diſſect dead bodies, and, indeed, Celſus ſays, *condemned criminals alive.*

Celſus de medicina, lib. i. in procem., expreſſes himſelf very elegantly, ſaying, "Neceſſarium eſſe incidere corpora mortuorum, eorumque viſcera atque inteſtina ſcrutari: longeque optime feciſſe Herophilum & Eraſiſtratum, qui nocentes homines a regibus ex carcere acceptos, vivos inciderint, conſiderantque etiam ſpiritu remanente ea quæ natura antea clauſiſſet, eorumque poſituram, colorem, figuram, magnitudinem, ordinem, duritiem, mollitiem, lævorem, contactum, progreſſus deinde ſingulorum & receſſus: & ſive quid inſeritur uteri, ſive quid partem alterius in ſe recipit."—He adds farther a very ſenſible remark: "Neque crudele eſſe hominum nocentium & horum quoque paucorum ſuppliciis, remedia populis innocentibus ſeculorum omnium quæri."

The opening dead bodies to ſcrutinize the parts was contrary to the Greek and Roman laws. In the Iphigenia of Euripides is this paſſage: *If any one ſtain his hand by murder, if any one touch a cadaver or woman immediately after parturition, the gods diſcharge him from their altars as impious and profane.*

Many paſſages in the Bible prove the great averſion the Jews had for touching dead bodies; the ſame opinion prevailed in general with all the eaſtern nations, and in the hot countries, where dead bodies ſoon fall into putridity.

The good effect of the liberty of diſſections, immediately produced a conſiderable change in medicine; for above all things, anatomical demonſtrations purge the mind of hypotheſes, fallacies, and imaginary conceits. All the anatomical knowledge of the ancients was chiefly owing to the induſtry of Eraſiſtratus and

fortunes. Some think every night that they ſhall not live to ſee morning; others are continually anxious for their children, friends, or on whatſoever occupies their affections; a religious and pious deſpondency ſeize ſome; others have imagined themſelves dead, and have directed their funeral: in ſhort, the innumerable variety of falſe images theſe nervous patients ſuffer and expreſs, appear little ſhort of inſanity; and they happen frequently to thoſe of the beſt underſtandings,

and Herophilus, under the auſpices of that great encourager of literature, Ptolomy Lagus, or Soter.

The ſciences cannot be well promoted, except by the generoſity of princes; but how few have encouraged the uſeful art of medicine? How many ages were they ſuffered to languiſh without any protector? Louis XIV. muſt ever be revered for his various inſtitutions at Paris, of which any induſtrious ſtudent may partake without fee or reward. How much more grandeur of ſentiment and philanthropy appear in ſuch a prince, than in thoſe who neglect ſuch noble opportunities of immortaliſing their fame?—One great objection to a medical education, at many univerſities, is, the impoſſibility, as well as difficulty of procuring dead bodies for anatomical exerciſes; and I affirm, that no man ever became a complete phyſician without diſſecting with his own hands many ſubjects: diſſection gives a knowledge of the parts, and leaves an impreſſion on the mind which cannot be effaced; theſe advantages lectures ſeldom anſwer, which is often the cauſe of a deficiency in anatomical knowledge.

derſtandings, joined with great nervous ſenſibility.

Theſe wretched ideas originate in a diſtracted mind, from abſurd irrational fears or deſires, or from too cloſe and long continued contemplation of abſtruſe, deep myſteries, above human comprehenſion; from fears inſpired by ignorance and fanaticiſm; or from bodily debility, rendering the faculties of the mind timid, ſuſpicious, and miſerable.

When theſe mournful or diſmal apprehenſions have originated in the mind independent of bodily diſeaſe, which, however, is ſeldom the caſe, they are more difficult to remove than if produced by bodily infirmity.

The cure of the mental wretchedneſs depends much on the ſoothing reaſoning, and the conſolation of affectionate friends: in religious deſpair, by the calm advice of a confidential friend or divine, inſpiring the deſpairing mind with hopes, and diverting the melancholy, according as circumſtances require; but, above all, the removal of the patient from the company of prejudiced bigots,

gots, promoters of falſe enthuſiaſm, or gloomy perſons.

When the body has been primarily affected, and the ſenſations of deſpondency ariſe from debility, the modes of cure already directed for various ſymptoms may be adopted.

Unjuſt ſuſpicions of intended miſchief are removed by inculcating or acquiring confidence, removing the cauſes by change of air, diverſions, and chearful company.

Taciturnity and *meditation* ſhould be conquered by engaging the patient to converſe on favorite ſubjects; by removing from calm retreats to more buſtling and active ſcenes; by changing the objects of attention, and, if poſſible, by exciting the paſſions.

Deſpondency is beſt relieved by fortifying the mind with hopes, and chaſing away all diſmal companions, particularly harſh, preſumptuous, ill-judging zealots in religion; by giving active ſtimulating purges, and by forcing the patient to uſe exerciſes even to fatigue. Such patients ſhould be narrowly *watched*, leſt they commit *ſuicide*.

Flying

Flying Pains.

Flying pains, in nervous patients, may ariſe from emphyſematous diſtenſions of the *tela celluloſa*, rheumatiſm, gout, acrimony of various ſorts, vellicating the nervous filaments, and diſtending the minute vaſcular ſyſtem, or from obſtructed perſpiration.

The removal of theſe flying pains firſt depends on diſcovering their cauſes.

In gouty pains, flying in different parts of the habit, nothing is ſuperior to the pediluvium compoſed of the *acidum muriaticum* greatly diluted with warm water*, unleſs the patient ſhould have calcareous concretions in the hands, knees, elbows, or feet.

Internally, light antimonial diaphoretics, with camphor and confectio cardiaca, or volatiles, according to ſymptoms and conſtitutions, are ſucceſsfully preſcribed.

The *flying* rheumatic pains may be treated in a ſimilar manner.

Emphyſematous nervous *diſtenſions* yield commonly to laxatives, light diaphoretics, vapor baths,

* See *Treatiſe on the Gout*, with the excellent effects of the *muriatic acid*.

baths, the volatile ſaline draught, or ſpiritus Mindereri, with cordials, bark, &c.

Acrimonious pains, from ſcurvy, ſcrophula, lues venerea, &c., require the different metallic remedies, as anti-venereals, alteratives, &c.; which ſhould be very cautiouſly preſcribed for the nervous.

Fluſhings in the Face, and various Parts.

Fluſhings are very common amongſt the nervous ſymptoms, and appear to ariſe from mental agitation forcing a great quantity of blood, which is already acrimonious, to the head and face; or from an irregular action of the fixed air in the fluids, or in the cellular ſtructure of the human body, with obſtructions in the returning veſſels.

Fixed air, or other air, may act as *ſtimuli*, and be *uſeful* in the circulation of the blood, and action of the fluids on the ſolids; but like other neceſſary particles, if *over-abundant*, may ſtimulate and increaſe arterial action, forcing *red* particles into the cavities of the minute *ſerous* arteries, or into the minu-

teſt

teſt cells of the human cellular ſtructure: hence *fluſhings*, *heat*, and *redneſs*.

If mental perturbation be the cauſe of fluſhings acting on the arterial ſyſtem, a determined calmneſs, and avoiding every thing likely to diſturb tranquillity, are neceſſary.

If from the ſuperabundance of *fixed* or *other air let looſe*, and ravaging with force and irregularity through the minute meanders of the human frame, its generation ſhould as much as poſſible be prevented in the ſtomach, and its treatment be ſimilar to that of *flatulency*, by the uſe of antiacids, &c.

Light diaphoretics likewiſe are proper in ſuch caſes, or the vapor baths prepared with nervine herbs, to promote its evacuation through the pores of the ſkin. A continued mild alterative courſe acts with more certain, though tedious effect, than all others, not only in changing the blood, but removing obſtruction itſelf.

Senſations of Cracking, or Exploſions in various Parts.

From ſimilar ſources to the laſt-mentioned ſymptoms, the ſenſations of crackings or exploſions

ploſions of different ſpecies of air, perhaps, originate. If in the head, they prove very troubleſome; in ſuch caſes cupping in the upper part of the neck I have found uſeful. A puncture in the ſkin of the leg or arm, or poiſonous, infectious matter received into the ſtomach, have ſuddenly produced an *emphyſema*; the air has been attracted by the communication of the *tela celluloſa*, and collected in all the external and cellular ſtructure of the muſcles, adeps, cutis, &c. ſo as to enormouſly ſwell the whole body.

I have thought, by the effects of cupping in cracking and exploſions in the head, that with the blood ſome of the diſtending air has been attracted, and ruſhing forth, has been expelled; by which means the patient has been ſoon liberated from the uneaſy ſenſations produced by over-abundance of *air* in the cellular ſtructure. It may be hereafter proved, that all painful diſorders ariſe from different, and morbid changes of *air* in the minute cellular ſtructure of the human body.

Imaginary Debility, and Diſinclination to move.

An *imaginary debility* frequently invades the minds of the nervous: they ſuppoſe it is impoſſible to walk acroſs a chamber without falling. If they be oppoſed in this unreaſonable fear or diſinclination to move, ſome become obſtreperous and violent; others give tokens of grief; are profuſe in complaints, and are apt to ſuppoſe their moſt affectionate friends barbarous, when they be earneſtly ſolicited to ſhake off theſe tranſitory ill-founded conceits.

It is very certain, that patients, under the dominion of theſe ſymptoms, only expreſs what their feelings urge: though by obſervers theſe falſe images are plainly perceived, yet in the patient's mind they ſeem realiſed, and merit our compaſſion and attention.

Reaſoning, or arguments of ſurrounding friends, to convince the patients of their erroneous mental images, frequently aggravate the diſeaſe: *harſhneſs* is oppoſed by violence and vociferation:

vociferation: *ſoothing* mildneſs ſtrengthens the conceits. I have always found it moſt eligible to obſerve a middle courſe in applying to the patient's mind; neither altogether acquieſcing nor denying the poſſibility of the nervous timidity. When they have dwelt ſome time on theſe miſerable feelings, ſome new object ſtarts, the ideal debility and diſinclination to move vaniſh, and the patient ſuddenly riſes, walks or rides, and demonſtrably proves the late calamitous apprehenſion *viſionary*.

It is abſolutely neceſſary for the phyſician to combat and conquer theſe ſymptoms by mildneſs and perſuaſion, or indeed according to circumſtances and diſpoſition of the patient: good ſenſe will ſuggeſt, what conduct and behaviour is moſt conducive to anſwer theſe purpoſes, and chaſe away thoſe ill-founded fears. If they be indulged, patients will remain in bed, or purſue an indolence likely to debilitate their already relaxed habits, or create diſeaſes more dangerous than the nervous.

Diverting the mind, and engaging it to ſome new intereſting objects, will often

avail. The application of medicine muſt be dictated by what has been already repeated. *Plethora* is to be diminiſhed by venæſection and evacuants; *debility* requires tonics, and *acrimony* mild mineral alteratives, according to the prevailing ſpecies.

On the Pulſes of the Nervous.

The pulſes of nervous patients are various; ſome are ſlow and firm, others quick and low, yet the patients labor under ſimilar affections.

The *concluſions* from the pulſe, were they regulated by the doctrines in other diſeaſes, would be often *fallacious*.

To the nervous particularly belong the privilege and power of exciting or diminiſhing the pulſe by the operations of the mind.

Impetuoſity, iraſcibility, or peeviſhneſs, will quicken; grief or melancholic ideas retard the contractions of the heart and arteries.

The *pulſe*, therefore, in the nervous, is not to be ſo much depended on as in many

many other diſeaſes; patients continually feel it, and draw falſe concluſions.

Where even acrimony ſometimes abounds, the pulſe is not weak, nor quickened: in other inſtances the circulation is much augmented, if not in ſtrength, yet in celerity. *Febres erraticæ*, and even a *natural ſalivation*, have ariſen from this laſt ſource, joined with anxiety of mind. Bleedings, abſtinence, and low diet, do not cure but injure the patient, by leſſening the vital powers, inducing additional languor and depreſſion of ſpirits *.

The ſtrongeſt pulſes amongſt the nervous are moſt favourable; the quick and weak leſs: but the intermittent and very ſlow are moſt alarming, and indicate more than the others the poſſibility of preſent defect, and future ill conſequences.

Dyſpnœa,

* Bleeding and antiphlogiſtics, ſaline evacuants, abſtinence, or extreme low watery diet, have been preſcribed, from perceiving a *quick pulſe* and tranſitory heats, but *improperly*. Neither the *heat* nor *quick pulſe* ariſe from plenitude, nor an inflammatory diatheſis, but from *acrimony*, or a lax texture of the blood; therefore alteratives or tonics, and nutritious foods, are often moſt eligible. See theſe doctrines more fully diſcuſſed in the Eſſay on the *putrid, malignant Sore Throat*, &c.

Dyſpnœa, or *Difficulty of Breathing.*

The *dyſpnœa* is a difficulty of breathing.

In the nervous it moſt frequently originates from ſympathy.

The œſophagus being diſtended with wind, from ſome particles of food adhering to its internal coat, and there cauſing effervescence and aerial diſtenſion, and compreſſing the *larynx* and *pharynx;* or the ſtomach or inteſtines inflated, and acting on the diaphragm, will occaſion a difficulty of breathing, and even a *ſyncope*, or fainting, cough, &c.

The treatment of the nervous *dyſpnœa* ſhould be ſimilar to the hyſteric paſſion; the ſymptoms are to be palliated or cured by carminatives, fetids, antiſpaſmodics, and aloetic remedies, lime water, calcined or common magneſia, volatile alkaline ſpirits, &c.; but the deeper cauſes ſhould be removed by the more important methods already recommended.

Nervous Cough and *nervous Aſthma.*

The nervous cough is either *ſympathetic*, from various diſeaſed viſcera, and is produci-

ble on hearing any other perſon cough, from agitation of mind, or *idiopathic*, when the *membrana pituitaria* is affected.

The former generally ariſes more from affections of the mind, flatulence in the œſophagus, ſtomach, or inteſtines, morbid liver, or other viſcera irritating the diaphragm, than from any primary diſeaſe of the lungs. The latter, or *idiopathic*, is an irritation of the *membrana pituitaria*, which not only extends over the whole inner ſurface of the noſe, but all through the internal ſtructure of the lungs.

The treatment of both caſes will be eaſily comprehended. Neither repeated bleedings, unleſs in plethora, abſtinence from animal food, nor the extreme low diet which ſome phyſicians have ſo rigorouſly adopted, will avail in the nervous cough, but relax the habit, and often render the nervous affection incurable *.

The

* I have ſeen this ſpecies of cough treated as a *phthiſis pulmonalis*, or pulmonary conſumption, which has ſo lowered and emaciated the patient, as to render recovery very difficult.

The *lungs* are only ſecondarily to be conſidered in the ſympathetic nervous cough, as they are more generally irritated to increaſed convulſive action, by the morbid affection of ſome other viſcus.

As in the *dyſpnœa*, ſo in the nervous ſympathetic cough, the œſophagus, ſtomach, inteſtines, are inflated, or there may be diſeaſes of the *liver*, *miſenteric glands*, and other viſcera; therefore the inveſtigation and removal of the cauſes of this dry cough muſt be governed by an attention to the primary diſeaſe.

In both the ſympathetic and idiopathic nervous cough, aſafœtida, joined with alkaline volatile ſalts, or volatile tincture of valerian, mitigate the cough, particularly in the pallid and languid: in the more florid, large doſes of camphor diſſolved and united to any aqueous menſtruum by means of blanched almonds, or in the following manner, are uſeful:

SOLUTIO CAMPHORATA.

No. 93. ℞. Camphor ʒſs. vel ℈ij. ſolve in
Spiritu vini rectificato ʒiij. deinde adde
Gum.

Gum. arab. pulv. ʒjiſs.

Saccharˢ. alb. ʒiſs. miſce ſimul, denique adde gradatim aq. pur. ℥viiſs. f. ſolutio camphorata, cujus capiat coch. ij. vel iij. ad libitum in dyſpnœa nervoſa, cum vel ſine aliquo liquore convenienti.

To this mixture, if neceſſary, may be added *elixir paregoric. tinctura thebaica, volatile alkaline ſalt*, &c., or very ſmall doſes of *antimonium tartariſatum*, according to the nature of the caſe, the conſtitution of the patient, and will of the preſcriber.*

Opium pulverized, and joined in ſmall quantities with gum benzoin, or frankincenſe, ſtorax, &c., and received in the form of a light fume, has greatly allayed the irritation of the nervous cough, particularly if the reſpiration be neither difficult nor weak: the ſame preparation has likewiſe proved very ſerviceable in mitigating coughs from various

* This is a much better preparation of camphor than the julapium e camphora; becauſe in the former the doſe of the camphor may be aſcertained; in the latter, the fineſt particles, by the boiling water, fly off, rendering the remedy of doubtful utility, or, perhaps, in a great meaſure, inefficacious.

various other cauſes; when joined with ſmall quantities of *cinnabar factitium*, in form of a fume, it will probably aſſiſt in removing thoſe *tubercula* in the lungs, which are the forerunners of pulmonary conſumption *.

Oleaginous mixtures united by the volatile alkaline ſpirit, to which may be added tinctura thebaica, under proper reſtrictions, have produced ſalutary effects; but oils are objectionable in general for nervous patients, as they are apt to relax the tone of the ſtomach and pall the appetite.

In the *nervous aſthma*, opium ſhould be very cautiouſly preſcribed, or wholly omitted. The reſpiration and circulating powers are ſometimes very weak, and a doſe of opium, injudiciouſly preſcribed, has ſent patients to eternal reſt.

Lac

* I have diſcovered, that the *Kentiſh Town air*, the place being ſurrounded by the high hills of *Hampſtead*, *Highgate*, &c. has cured many conſumptive caſes. In my garden there, *myrtle* has lived through the winters, openly expoſed, a ſtrong proof of the mildneſs of the atmoſphere, calculated for aſthmatic and conſumptive patients.

Lac ammoniacum and the ſolutio camphorata, with the fourth or eighth part of a grain of the *antimonium tartariſatum*, every four or ſix hours, bliſters, volatiles, and fetids, with pediluvia, and even venæſection, in urgent caſes, have moſt availed in removing or palliating the nervous aſthma.

In more obſtinate and chronic caſes, pediluvia, bliſters, ſquills, lac ammoniacum, æther, and ſometimes tonics, are neceſſary. Æthiops mineral, cinnabarine preparations, mercurial pills of the argentum vivum, &c., with antimonials, are very beneficial as cauſe-removing remedies in theſe nervous coughs or aſthma.

No. 94. ℞. Cinnab. fact. ppt. ʒvj.
Conf. cynoſbat. ʒifs. Syr. balſam. q. ſ. f. Elect. cujus capiat Q. N. M. bis vel ter in die, ſuperbibendo coch. ij. vel. iij. ſolutionis camphoratæ.

Pains

Pains under the Mediaſtinum, in the Pleura, or *Diaphragm.*

Amongſt nervous patients, I have frequently obſerved pungent pains immediately under the *mediaſtinum*, in the *pleura*, or *diaphragm*: the anatomical conſideration of the ſituation of the pain determines ſometimes, though not always, the part affected. If the pain be immediately under the ſternum, the diſeaſe is ſeated in the *mediaſtinum*, or in the veſſels of the heart; if on the ſides, in the *thoracical muſcles* or *pleura;* if pains ſhould extend from the fore and lower part of the thorax to the back, the *diaphragm* is affected.

Theſe pains have originated commonly from ſudden grief; that on the *mediaſtinum* has ſucceeded a kind of *ſobbing*, in which the patient thinks the heart is ready to burſt; and there is reaſon ſometimes to conclude, the heart has become enlarged from over-dilatation, which, in ſome inſtances,

ſtances, ſooner or later, may be attended with dangerous or fatal conſequences.

Theſe ſymptoms are generally accompanied with a dry cough, and the heart ſuffers palpitation in the pain affecting the *mediaſtinum*, on aſcending up ſtairs, or walking up a hill*.

Thoſe nervous pains in the pleura, or even diaphragm, are commonly more troubleſome than ſerious: they often accompany gouty or rheumatic acrimony, and are to be treated accordingly, by bliſters, volatiles, antimonials, antacids, &c.

The *fixed pain*, originating from extreme grief, or any very violent paſſion of the mind, immediately in the centre of the ſternum, requires a copious bleeding, to prevent thoſe conſequences which a large quantity of blood might create, when directed to the heart by the force of the over-afflicted or agitated mind. The ſooner this operation is performed, on any violent guſt of paſſion, or ſudden and vehement

* The palpitation of the heart, and its various cauſes, are fully conſidered in the *Treatiſe on convulſive Diſeaſes*.

ment grief, the greater probability there will be, that leſs injury will happen to the heart or its large veſſels.

Bliſters, antiſpaſmodics, and laxatives, are advantageous; but preferable to all is the conſolation of affectionate friends, whoſe participation in ſorrow or misfortunes will tend to the alleviation and diminution of the oppreſſing affliction.

To the methods of cure, already recommended in nervous diſeaſes, may be added the adminiſtration of clyſters, repeated once, or twice, in the day, which may be detergent, nervine, or alterative. The firſt, compoſed of weak ſolutions of borax, aloetics, ſoap, in decoctions of detergent herbs, cleanſe the rectum and partly the colon, preſerving the regular periſtaltic motion of the inteſtines. The ſecond are antiſpaſmodic and carminative, compoſed of warm ſeeds in decoction or infuſion, weak lime water, or *magneſia alba calcinata vel non calcinata;* theſe correct and abſorb *fixed air*, and remove flatulency. Weak acid clyſters might correct alkaline air. The third,

com-

compoſed of very weak ſolutions of mineral alteratives, as *Plenk*'s ſolution with ſulphureous waters, *antimonium tartariſatum*, &c. &c., carry their effects farther into the conſtitution, by the abſorbing powers of the lacteal ſyſtem on the ſurface even of the large inteſtines. On theſe *new modes* of treatment much more may be advanced at ſome future opportunity.

END OF VOL. I.

